Sage Maitreya

Part-1

Chapter 1 The birth of Maitreya
persia(aryatapa)
In the temple of great mother Anahita

Lord Mithra enters.
Temple priestess enquires the purpose of his visit.Mithra informs.The temple priestess allows him to enter the private chambers of the goddess.He drinks the drink made of hoame plant.
Mithra invokes the great goddess Anahita:

“O mighty Anahita , with splendour, shine
Incarnate as a youthful divine .
O full of charm and beauty.
O goddess of fertility and life giving waters,
I, Lord Mithra, invoke your presence.....
Please come, show yourself and kiss me
O noble bride, straight-figured
Freeborn, herself in a pucked dress will hide.
Your cloak is all decorated with gold with a precious dress, let me Anahita behold!”

As Mithra completed the invocation, his consciousness altered to another state.
He felt the blurring of his vision. Finally when vision settled, he found himself in front of great goddess Anahita, sitting on a beautiful throne, looking radiant beauty, fresh as lilly, with brilliant smile and seductive eyes, her hairs decorated with most scented flowers, skin radiating the shine of sandalwood, wearing a crown of jewels in her head and some light jewellery in her neck and the white dress of a bride.She looked splendrous. Mithra was dazzled by her presence.

Goddess Anahita spoke," O Mithra, the most beloved of my heart, the noblest of all, come,come embrace your mother."

Mithra went forward.They both ritually kissed each other on the lips and with a short hug.

Anahita-”O brave Mithra, now speak .What ails your heart? What brings you here?”

Mithra-”Mother, my ancestors have been guiding the destinies of people of persia for centuries .To the best of my abilities , I ‘ve tried to discharge my duties.I ‘ve tried to be just and to teach the people the path of righteousness.I ‘ve maintained order and stability in the lives of my people so that they can live peacefully and grow spiritually.Tell me mother , have I failed somewhere?”
Anahita-”No , my son.Not at all. On the contrary, you are the brightest among your generation who has gone the extra-mile to serve the people of aryatapa.It is due to your hard work and efforts, your keen sense of justice and love that the people admire you.You live in their hearts and thanks to you that my worship has been popularised in the the whole of aryatapa. Without you , none of this was possible.”

Mithra-”I want to continue my good work , dear mother but it seems to me that the Gods are against me.”
Anahita-”What makes you think so, Mithra?”

Mithra-”To further my work , I need an heir who will continue my work, who will see these people as his own. I need a son, dear mother.”
Anahita-”so ……what’s the problem?”

Mithra(with deep anguish in his voice)-
”My wife Mitraa is not able to conceive, great mother. I need your assistance.Please help me, i beg you,”

Anahita became silent for a while.
Then she spoke-
”Don't worry, dear Mithra.Bring your wife to my temple at night,You’ll have a son. This is Anahita’s word to you.It will be fulfilled .”

Mithra was jubilant hearing this.

“Thank You dear mother,I knew you would help me.Thank you very much.”
Mithra once again ritually kissed the Great Mother and his vision blurred. He found himself sitting in front of the statue of Anahita in her private chambers. Mithra returned to his palace.

In the palace

When Lord Mithra reached his palace, he went straight away to meet his wife and beloved . Mithra saw his wife , sitting quietly , observing the blue sky , lost in her thoughts.

Mithra spoke-"मित्रा, प्रिय किस सोच में डूबी हुई हो?"

मित्रा -" स्वामी आप कब आये?"

मित्र -" बस अभी । "

"और ऐसा क्या हो गया जो मेरी मित्रा इतनी उदास बैठी है?"

There were tears in Mitra's eyes, listening to her husband's words.

Mitraa spoke-"बस स्वामी , मैं एक अच्छी पत्नी नहीं बन पाई। "

Mithra-"यह तुमसे किसने कह दिया?"

मित्रा -"किसी ने नहीं स्वामी , लेकिन जो स्त्री अपने पति को उनका वारिस न दे पाए , ऐसी स्त्री को समाज अभागन कहता है । "

She again started sobbing.

Mithra-"मत रो प्रिय मत रो। "

मित्रा -" मेरा सुझाव है आप दूसरा विवाह कर लीजिये स्वामी , इसी में सबकी भलाई है। "

Mithra (started laughing)-"दूसरा विवाह , तुम बहुत सोचती हो मित्रा। "

मित्रा -" आप हंस क्यों रहें हैं , स्वामी ?मैंने कोई हास्यास्पद बात कह दी क्या?"

मित्र -"नहीं मित्रा , बस तुम्हारे भोलेपन पर मुस्कुरा बैठा , प्रिय। "

"वैसे तुम्हे एक खुशखबरि देनी है। "

मित्रा -" खुशखबरि ??"

मित्र -"हाँ प्रिय मैं देवी अनाहिता से मिलकर आ रहा हूँ। उनको मैंने अपनी समस्या बताई। उन्होंने हम दोनों को आज रात अपने मंदिर में बुलाया है। उनका कहना है की तुम माँ बन सकती हो। "

मित्रा -" सच स्वामी ! क्या यह संभव है? हमने सभी चिकित्सकों को दिखला लिया , उनके अनुसार मैं माँ नहीं बन सकती। "

मित्र -"वो great mother अनाहिता है मित्रा। उनके लिए कुछ भी असंभव नहीं। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है अनाहिता हमे निराश नहीं करेगी। "

Mitraa crossed her finger , seeing in Anahita her last hope of becoming a mother, yet not believing that it is possible.

Night

Both Mithra and mitraa went together to the temple of the great Mother Anahita.The high priestess gave them both drink made from hoame plant. Together they drank it and started invoking the great goddess.

"O mighty Anahita, youthful divine
Symbol of beauty and charm
Goddess of fertility and life-giving waters
The noble bride
Let us Anahita behold."

The consciousness of both couples started getting altered.When it stabilised, they felt ,they were still sitting in the temple but the statue of anahita was replaced by Anahita in spirit form.

Anahiita came forward and ritually kissed both of them.

Now Anahita spoke=" dear mitraa ,do you really want to have a child?"

Mitraa-" yes I do."

Anahita -"Do you want it with all your heart?"

Mitraa-"Yes I do"

Anahita-``So be it , then.”
She signalled the couple to position themselves for the sexual act.
Anahita-”Now close your eyes, both of you ...and when I say do, the two of you will open your eyes and make love here now.Mithra would impregnate his wife with his seed and by my will and blessings you’ll conceive a beautiful child. Do you understand?”

Both of them nodded.Both closed their eyes.Then Anahita started blending her energy with Mitraa. Soon,Anahita’s sexual energy,fertility, beauty, radiance.... All became part of Mitraa , as if the two had become one.
Then Anahita spoke-”Do.”
Mithra opened his eyes.He had never seen Mitraa this seductive, this hot.... Her entire aura has changed.There was teasing and playfulness in her eyes.For a while, Mithra could not take his eyes off her.

Mitraa spoke finally-"अब देखते ही रहिएगा या कुछ कीजियेगा भी जी। जरा मई भी तो देखूं आपमें इतना है दम ?"

Mithra had never been challenged before on his manhood and he had not expected this from his soft-spoken wife. He responded aggressively.

It was the most passionate love Mithra ever experienced . The whole night they played with each other, kissed each other, touched each other.... By the day Mithra was tired. He finally ended up sleeping on the lap of half naked Mitraa , who seemed to have gotten more rejuvenated and energetic by this affair.
Seeing that Mithra had slept , Anahita finally left Mithra's body.As Anahita left, Mitraa too felt tired and fell asleep.Anahita blessed the couple , smiled and then disappeared.

In the palace

When they woke up,both came back to the palace.Mithra was curious to know if this attempt

of his succeeded, so he asked the royal physician to check his wife's condition once more.The royal physician was surprised by checking Mitraa's body.There was no sign of infertility now.It seemed her body was preparing for the birth of a child.

राज वैद्य -" महाराज यह तो चमत्कार हो गया। प्रारंभिक जांच से तो लगता है महारानी एक बच्चे को जन्म दे सकती है। "

Mithra was jubilant.

राज वैद्य cautioned -"हालाँकि कुछ पक्के तौर पर कहने के लिए हमें 3 महीने तक इंतजार करना होग। "

Mithra started taking extra- care of his wife. He had full faith in Goddess Anahita that her word will be fulfilled.Soon 3 months passed . Now it was confirmed that indeed Mitraa is going to give birth to a child and that too a boy.

9 months passed.

Mitraa started experiencing labour pain. All her servants helped her deliver the child.Finally going through much pain, she delivered the child.One of

the servants went to give this good news to Mithra.

"बधाई हो महाराज , लड़का हुआ है। "

There was no limit to Mithra's joy.

"मेरा पुत्र , मेरा वारिस। "

He thanked the gods but above all he thanked Anahita.Then he came to meet his wife and see his son.Mitraa was lying in the bed.Her son was in the 'palki' ,Seeing Mithra coming , she had a great sense of satisfaction on her face.

Mithra-"तुम ठीक तो हो न , प्रिय ?"

मित्रा-"स्वामी कई दिनों से एक अनजान बोझ के साथ जी रही थी। आज मनो वो उतर गया। "

Both hugged each other.
Finally both of them together saw their new born child ..

Mithra-"इसकी आँखें कितनी बड़ी है , देखो तो कैसे हमें देख रहा है। "

मित्रा -" शकल से तो बिलकुल आप पर गया है। "

मित्र -"लेकिन आँख , कान और नाक तो तुमसे ज्यादा मिलते हैं। "

Both started laughing.

मित्रा asked -" अच्छा स्वामी इसका नाम क्या रखेंगे ?"

मित्र spoke proudly -"यह मित्र का पुत्र है मैत्रेय। "

मित्रा -"मैत्रेय , कितना सुन्दर नाम है । "

Mithra then spoke-"हमें इसे goddess अनाहिता से मिलवाने ले जाना चाहिए। उन्ही के वजह से हमें पुत्र सुख की प्राप्ति हुई है। "

Mitraa nodded.After some days , when Mitraa recovered , both took their son, Maitreya with them to goddess Anahita's temple.

Chapter 2 Anahita's prophecy

The beautiful couple , along with their son Maitreya went to the temple of the great goddess.Their the high priestess administered doses of hoame drink to both of them. Their consciousness altered .When it settled ,they found Anahita standing in front of them.
Anahita kissed the two of them ritually.

Finally Mithra spoke-"Mother, this child of mine is a result of your blessings.We have come to show him to you.Truly he belongs to you."

Anahita, taking the child in her arms, kissed him on the forehead. She looked deep into his eyes.The boy was smiling in her arms.

Then she spoke-" this child belongs to both of us, Mithra. He is as much a part of yours as mine. This boy is going to be an exceptional man.He will far surpass you in his wisdom and intelligence.He has inherited your bravery and by my blessings , my beauty and charm.He will be a true lover like you ,

Mithra , who will rule the hearts of people, but he will also be known as a great seducer of women, whom women will love and hate at the same time.He will be the harbinger of peace and the cause of war. He has a great destiny in front of himself. He is the child of destiny, Mithra. Destiny has chosen him for a special purpose."

Mithra was pleased by such wonderful words of Anahita for his child, but was also concerned , for he was wise enough to know that great destiny always demands great sacrifices.

Then Anahita became tense.
Mithra-"What happened mother?What do you see?"
Anahita (in trance)-" seven years from now, you will be separated from your child, Mithra. A great crisis is heading your way.This boy will not be safe if he stays here.You must send him to some place far away."

Mithra-"Crisis!But all seems to be well in my kingdom , mother."

Anahita (in trance) again spoke-"There is a man……his time is coming …..he is coming with new teachings, Mithra…he will declare himself the prophet…. And the old teachings are a product of the false religion…..he has ambitions to rule all over persia… your boy is not safe for he will be seen as a threat to this man 's rule."

Mithra-" for centuries , we have been rooted in this soil , mother. How can someone just come and overthrow our reign?"

Anahita-"because destiny wants it, mithra.To make space for the new , the old must recede in the background.Seven years from now, this man will rise.It will be a period of great turmoil, chaos and confusion.Nobody can change the ways of destiny, Mithra.Mark my words when the right time comes ,rise above attachment and save the child."

The couple thanked Anahita and returned to the palace.

Chapter 3 The Crisis

The 7 year period of Anahita's prophecy was nearing its completion.It filled Mithra's heart with anxiety.He loved his son very much and the thought of separation would tore his heart into many pieces.Everyday he would cringe at the possibility that the fateful day is near.

Finally the signs of first discontent from the eastern part of persia were heard .A man , the speaker of old avestan language , a priest was voraciously preaching against the old religion . He claimed to have brought new teachings , the true teachings of one true lord, Ahura Mazda.

When Mithra heard of this man, he immediately recognized him as the prophesied prophet that Anahita told him about.When he enquired his name , he came to know that he was called " zarathustra".
Mithra's heart sank.He knew nothing could outrun destiny.If Zarathustra was the prophesied man ,

his rise is inevitable. What troubled Mithra was the pain of separation from his one and only son.

Soon the teachings of Zoroaster spread like wildfire in the whole of Persia, challenging people's old beliefs and old gods.Mithra's authority was repeatedly being challenged but Mithra kept quiet.He allowed zoroaster to take his natural course.But this free hand by Mithra emboldened Zoroaster.He interpreted it as Mithra's weakness and came to the conclusion that a weak man should not be leading the people of Persia.

Mithra meets Zoroaster

Mithra finally decided to confront Zoroaster when he saw Zoroaster's followers were causing mayhem and chaos in persia.
Mithra-" Hello Zoroaster, I am Mithra , friend of all and the god of justice and love."
Zoroaster-"You are no god . There is but one supreme being, my ahura mazda.

Mithra -”I agree there is one supreme consciousness spread across existence and there is energy , the play of duality.This supreme consciousness is beyond all dualities.

Zoroaster-”No no … my ahura mazda lives up above .. in the sky. He is the supreme person and he is all good who fights Ahirman- the symbol of all bad that exists in the world.This battle keeps on going , in the hearts and minds of the people.”

Mithra-”Good and bad both arise from the supreme being - Brahman.”
Zoroaster-”No No ….. The supreme person is all good… all love… all justice.”

Mithra realized that there is a fundamental difference between Zoroaster's conception and his view of reality.
Zoroaster thought-”This man preaches the wrong religion.I must rectify and correct all teachings of old and bring Ahura Mazda to life.”

Mithra now took the conciliatory approach.He spoke-”Okay Zoroaster, I can see we disagree on fundamentals. Please enlighten me about your reforms.”
Zoroaster (feeling victorious) spoke-”There is all good Ahura Mazda and all bad Ahirman. There is heaven . hell and earth. Humans , by their capacity for thoughts, speech and action can choose , at any time, right thought , right speech and right action.
Therefore, humans should always choose Asha(Hope) over druj(darkness). You must fight the inner struggle.”
Mithra-” You seem to be adoring war mindset.I have come with the proposal of peace. Why not include all the good elements of your teachings with mine and so live and let live with each other.”
But Zoroaster refused to budge.
He said-” I bow only to Ahura Mazda. He is the one and only true God I accept.”
Mithra-” Take my support to build a peaceful and prosperous persia,”

Zoroaster-"I don't need your support, Mithra. I am on the winning side . you are the one who is losing this battle."
Mithra wanted to negotiate peace but Zoroaster was stubborn.
Zoroaster finally spoke-" time for talk is over. Now if you want the welfare of yourself and your family , then you must evacuate now else do not blame me for the situation."
Mithra left.
He came home and told Mitraa everything that transpired between him and the zoroaster.He immediately decided -" Time for Maitreya to leave this place has come. He asked Mitraa to pack her clothes and essentials and leave Persia with Maitreya and maid servants that night itself, to Aryavart.

मित्रा-"और स्वामी आप ? आप भी चलिए यहाँ से। आप की जान को भी खतरा है यहाँ पर। "

मित्र -" नहीं मित्रा मै इसी धरती की संतान हूँ। यहाँ के लोग सब मेरे अपने हैं। इनका साथ छोड़ना मेरे लिए संभव नहीं। "

There were tears in Mitraa's eyes.

Mithra spoke-"मै एक पत्र लिख रहा हूँ। इसे तुम ऋषि मैत्री को देना। आर्यावर्त में वही हमारे परिवार का हिस्सा हैं। तुम चिंता मत करो। जब हालात यहाँ बेहतर हो जायेंगे, मै तुम्हे बुला लूँगा। "

Mithra's Letter

"प्रणाम ऋषि मैत्री

उम्मीद है आप और मैत्रेयि सकुशल होंगे। यहाँ हालात बिगड़ रहे है - जोरास्टर नए धर्म का प्रचार कर रहा है - हिंसा की भी सम्भावना है इसलिए मित्रा मैत्रेय की सुरक्षा के मद्देनज़र मै इन्हे आपकी शरण में भेज रहा हूँ।

उम्मीद है आपको इससे कोई आप्पत्ति नहीं होगी।

मित्र"

Before they left,Mithra went to spend some time with Maitreya.

मित्र-"पुत्र मैत्रेय। "

मैत्रेय -'पिताजी "

मित्र -"तुम एक लम्बी यात्रा में जा रहे हो। हो सकता है हमे कई दिनों तक अलग रहना पड़े। तुम रह लोगे न। "

मैत्रेय-"लेकिन क्यों ? मुझे नहीं जाना कही। "

मित्र -" तुम अपने नानी घर जा रहे हो पुत्र। "

मैत्रय -"आप साथ क्यों नहीं चल रहे ?"

मित्र -"मुझे यहाँ कुछ काम है ,पुत्र वह बस खत्म करके तुमसे मिलने तुरंत आऊंगा। "

Maitreya hugged his father. Mithra cried.Finally Mithra spoke-"अच्छा पुत्र , मै अगर तुम्हे कुछ याद रखने को कहूं तो रखोगे याद ?"

मैत्रेय -"जी पिताजी। "

मित्र -" तो मेरी ये 7 बातें कभी नहीं भूलना।

(1) खुद को कभी अकेला मत समझना। मै हमेशा तुम्हारे साथ हूँ , तुम्हारे हृदय में।

(2)माँ को ज्यादा तंग मत करना। उनको कोई दुःख नहीं पहुँचाना।

(3)अपनी माँ की बात हमेशा मानना।

(4)पढाई पूरा मन लगा कर करना।

(5)अपने गुरु और बड़ों का सदा सम्मान करना।

(6)सभी के मीत्र बनना।

(7)ज्ञान के लिए मन के दरवाजे सदा खुला रखना। ”

मैत्रेय-”जी पिताजी याद रखूँगा। ”

Saying so, Mithra said goodbye to his son and wife.

Chapter 4 The sage and his daughter

By long travel through foot, cart and ship, Mitraa finally reached Aryavart, her home along with her son Maitreya.The threat of Zoroaster upon her son was long beneath now.She felt safe and relieved for Maitreya, but a part of her still worried about her husband, Mithra.He was standing there , in the center of the storm ,alone.

Finally she reached her father's home.Sage Maitri was surprised , seeing her daughter without any pre-information about their coming.Mitraa gave him the letter of Mithra.When he read that, he responded -"Mithra took the wise decision."

"आओ पुत्री। मैत्रेयि देखो कौन आया है?"

Maitreyi was joyous to see her sister suddenly.

Maitreyi-"दीदी, तुम यहाँ मुझे तो विशवास ही नहीं हो रहा , कैसी हो?कितने दिनों बाद देख रही हूँ तुम्हे ?"

Mitraa -"मै भी , तुम तो बहुत खूबसूरत हो गयी हो। "

Maitreyi-"अब क्या फायदा, जीजू ने तो तुम्हे चुन लिया। "

Both sisters started laughing.

Then Maitreyi saw the child standing by Mitraa's side.

Maitreyi-"और ये कौन है दीदी?"

मित्रा -"यह मेरा पुत्र मैत्रेय। "

मैत्रेयि-"मैत्रेय , बड़ा सुन्दर नाम रखा है। "

Sage maitri-"चलो खाना खा लो , बड़ी लम्बी यात्रा करके आयी हो बातें तो होती रहेंगी। "

And so Mitraa and Maitreya started living in Sage Maitri's home. Maitreyi too got fond of the young boy. She loved him much Maitreya would call her'मौसी '.

And so , many days passed.

Chapter 4.1 Maitra Upanishad

Then one day Maitreya saw many great scholars and philosophers of the time visiting Sage Maitri ashram.Among them were Yagyavalkya,Vashistha,Visvamitra,Parashar, ashtavakra, Janak, gargi etc.Sage Maitri had prepared a 'महाभोज ' for them.
After the 'भोज ' everybody sat for spiritual discussions., when Sage Maitri took the centerstage.

He spoke-"यहाँ उपस्थित सभी विद्वानों को मेरा नमन आप सभी ज्ञानी हैं , आत्मन और brahman को निरंतर समझते हैं और आत्मसात करने का प्रयास करते हैं इसके लिए मेरी कृतज्ञता स्वीकार करें। इसी कड़ी में मैंने भी अपने जीवन भर का ज्ञान , अध्ययन और समझ को इस किताब में संजोया है। मै चाहता हूँ की आप इसे 'मित्र उपनिषद् की संज्ञा से अपनाये। यह विनती है मेरी। "

Then Sage Maitri narrated portions of his book reflecting the understanding of Atman and Brahman .
Soon discussions started happening which then took the form of heated debates.

Yagyavalkya-"क्या आत्मन और ब्रह्म एक हैं?"
मैत्री -" हाँ और नहीं। जिस प्रकार घड़े की अंदर की हवा और बाहर की हवा एक होती है फिर भी अंदर की हवा स्वयं को घड़े से बंधा पति है वैसा ही हाल आत्मन और ब्रह्म का है।
गार्गी -"क्या आत्मन को देखा जा सकता है ?"
मैत्री -" नहीं लेकिन वह है , इसका अनुभव किया जा सकता है। "
पराशर -" कैसे क्या मार्ग है आत्मन के अनुभव का ?"
मैत्री -" जप , तप , स्वाध्याय और अंतर मुखी होना। अपने मन को जप-तप से शुद्ध करना , स्वाध्याय से निरंतर आत्मन पर केंद्रित करना और फिर ध्यान की अवस्था में उसका साक्षात्कार करना। "

And so .... Discussions and debate happened for a long time but the one who stood out was Yagyavalkya.It seemed that yagyavalkya and Maitri were fighting a verbal duel together.Yagyavalkya was countering the various answers of Maitri as well as the questions of other sages. His responses were profound . The whole assembly was impressed by his knowledge and understanding of atman and brahman .

But the ways of fate are very different.Not only scholars, but somebody else was also getting impressed there .'Maitreyi'- the more she saw yagyavalkya , the more she felt love for him.
By the time the debates ended , Maitreyi knew that she had found the man with whom she would like to live her whole life with.

Finally in the evening , it was time for a decision.Every body agreed Vashistha and Vishwamitra were the two most eldest and respected scholars of ancient wisdom, but vishwamitra was a distant relative of Sage maitri ..

so there was conflict of interest in his judgement. So , everybody agreed on Vashistha.
Vashistha finally spoke-”I pronounce this work of Sage Maitri as a new upanishad. Henceforth it will be known as ‘ Maitra Upanishad’.

Sage Maitri was joyous beyond bounds.His dream project has been fulfilled . He thanked all the sages and scholars. Everybody then returned to their respective homes.

Chapter 4.2 Maitreyi's Love Marriage

That night Maitreyi could not sleep. Yagyavalkya was all over her mind.The way he spoke, the way he moved his hands, his razor-sharp arguments, his voice, his eyes... as if everything about him was beautiful and lovely.

Next morning, after taking bath, Maitreyi came to talk to Mitraa.Mitraa was sitting with sewing machine and wool.She wanted to sew a sweater for Maitreya fr the coming winters.

Seeing Maitreyi , Mitraa spoke-"अरे बहना , आओ बैठो। "

मैत्रेयि -" दीदी , आपसे कुछ बात करनी है?"

मित्रा -" हाँ, तो कहो न। मैं सुन रहीं हूँ। "

मैत्रेयि -" कैसे कहूं , यही तो समझ में नहीं आ रहा। "

मित्रा -" हृदय की बात है क्या ?"

मैत्रेयि -"हाँ दीदी , आप तो हृदय शाश्त्र में शुरू से पारंगत रहीं है , मैं ही थोड़ी कच्ची निकल गयी। "

मित्रा -" अच्छा तो मुझसे क्या शर्माना , बोल क्या हुआ है?"

मैत्रेयि (hesitatingly)-"दीदी वो मुझे , मुझे प्रेम हो गया है। "

Hearing this, Mitraa started laughing.

She finally spoke-" प्रेम, तुझे।,कब किस्से ?"

मैत्रेयि-" क्या दीदी , आपको मजाक सूझ रहा है। यहाँ मेरी हालत ख़राब हो रही है। "

मित्रा -"अच्छा माफ़ कर दे। नहीं हसूँगी। अब नाम तो बता उस व्यक्ति का। "

मैत्रेयि -" याज्ञवल्क्य। "

मित्रा -"याज्ञवल्क्य कौन?"

मैत्रेयि -" वो जो उस दिन शाष्त्रार्त में पिताजी को चुनौती नहीं दे रहे थे , तेज -तरार सवाल पूछ रहे थे और उनके जवाब मानो तलवार की धार के सामान हो, वही। "

मित्रा -" लगता है उनकी चाकू और तलवार ने गहरा घाव किया है। "

मैत्रेयि (शर्माते हुए) starts looking downwards.

Then thinking something, she finally spoke-

"मगर दीदी एक समस्या है ?"

मित्रा -" क्या समस्या है?"

मैत्रेयि -" यह बात मैं पिताजी से कैसे कहूं की मैं याज्ञवल्क्य से प्रेम करती हूँ और उनसे विवाह करना चाहती हूँ। "

Mitraa -" hmmm....समझी ..... मेरे पास एक युक्ति है। "

मैत्रेयि-" क्या ?"

मित्रा -"क्यों न तू पिताजी से यह जा कर कहती है की तू अपने आगे की शिक्षा याज्ञवल्क्य से लेना चाहती है। पिताजी भी मानेगे की याज्ञवल्क्य से बेहतर ब्रम्हा ज्ञाता इस पुरे आर्यावर्त में नहीं है। "

मैत्रेयि -" पिताजी मान जायेंगे ?"

मित्रा -"तू प्रयास तो कर। "

मैत्रेयि-" ठीक है दीदी। "

And so Maitreyi went to meet her father .

Maitreyi- Sage Maitri conversation

Sage Maitri was giving finishing touches to his life's work when Maitreyi knocked on the door.

Maitreyi-"पिताजी , मैं अंदर आ सकती हूँ?"

मैत्री -" आओ पुत्री , तुम्हे अंदर आने से मैंने कभी रोका है। "

मैत्रेयि -" पिताजी , मुझे आपसे कुछ जरूरी बात करनी है ?"

मैत्री -" कहो?"

मैत्रेयि(hesitating)-" वो pitaji.....वो बात यह है की ....."

मैत्री -" क्या बात है पुत्री जो तुम इतना हिचक रही हो ?

निसंकोच हो कर कहो। "

मैत्रेयि-" वो पिताजी .....मैं चाह रही थी की ...आगे की शिक्षा .....

मैं और पड़ना चाहती हूँ पिताजी। "

मैत्री -"और पड़ना चाहती हो। यह तो बड़ा उच्छ विचार है।

तुम्हारी उम्र में तो लोग अपनी बेटी की शादी करवा देते हैं

लेकिन मुझे फक्र है तुमपर बेटी की तुमने ज्ञान की आराधना

को ज्यादा महत्त्व दिया। मैं शीघ्र ही तुम्हारे लिए गुरु ढूंढता

हूँ। "

मैत्रेयि -" वो पिताजी, एक गुरु तो है मेरी नज़र में। "

मैत्री -"अच्छा ,तुमने गुरु का भी चयन कर लिया। जरा मैं भी

तो सुनु तुम्हारे गुरु का नाम। "

मैत्रेयि -" पहले आप वादा कीजिये आप गुस्सा नहीं करेंगे। "

मैत्री -" अरे बाबा , मैं गुस्सा क्यों होने लगा?"

मैत्रेयि -"नहीं , पहले आप वादा कीजिये। "

मैत्री-" ठीक है किया वादा , अब तो नाम बताओ। "

मैत्रेयि-" उनका नाम है.....याज्ञवल्क्य।"

Sage Maitri became silent, hearing the name of Yagyavalkya . He started contemplating. Maitreyi started feeling nervous by the silence of her father.

Finally Sage Maitri spoke-"तुमने उचित निर्णय किया है मैत्रेयि। याज्ञवल्क्य से बेहतर गुरु तुम्हे नहीं मिल सकता मैं खुश हूँ तुम्हारे चयन से । "

मैत्रेयि-" सच पिताजी , मुझे भय था कहीं आप नाराज़ न हो जाये। "

मैत्री -" मुझे ख़ुशी है की तुमने व्यक्तिगत मन -मुटाव को किनारे करके अपने सर्वांगीण विकास को ध्यान में रखकर ये निर्णय लिया है। "

Maitreyi was joyous beyond bounds . She ran towards Mitraa to share this news.After some time Sage Maitri and Maitreyi visited yagyavalkya's home.Yagyavalkya accepted Maitreyi as his student. And soon it became a daily routine for

Maitreyi to visit Yagyavalkya's home .She would discuss various matters of Dharma with him.Yagyavalkya too was impressed by the sharp intellect of Maitreyi.She was a brilliant scholar of Vedanta. Yagyavalkya had never found anyone matching him equally in debate as she did. Finally one day the topic of Love came forth.

Yagyavalkya-" मैत्रेयि आज का विषय प्रेम है। अगर तुम्हे कोई आपत्ति है तो हम इस विषय को छोड़ सकते हैं। "

मैत्रेयि"-" प्रेम तो जीवन का सार है , जीवन का आधार है गुरुदेव। इसे कैसे त्यागा जा सकता है। आप निश्चिंत रहिये , मुझे प्रेम के विषय से कोई समस्या नहीं है। "

याज्ञवल्क्य -" चलो , तब तो अच्छा है। तुम्हारे साथ वाद-विवाद में बड़ा आनंद आता है। देखते है आज तुम जीतती हो या मैं ?"

मैत्रेयि-" अगर मैं जीती तो ?"

याज्ञवल्क्य-" तो क्या?"

मैत्रेयि- " तो आपको मेरी एक इच्छा पूरी करनी पड़ेगी। "

याज्ञवल्क्य -" ठीक है। "

And so the discussions began.

It was a complex discussion on the idea of love, but in the end , it was Maitreyi who emerged victorious.She was able to prove that attraction of a man towards a a woman and vice versa is also love of brahman for atman or more specifically love of brahman for itself.Yagyavalkya considered attraction as superficial but now he saw it in a new light.He finally spoke-"मैत्रेयि , मैं हारा , तुम जीती। "

मैत्रेयि-" आपको आपका वादा तो याद है न। "

याज्ञवल्क्य-" हाँ , बोलो क्या इच्छा है तुम्हारी?"

मैत्रेयि (शर्माते हुए)-" मैं आपसे प्रेम करने लगी हूँ और आपको अपने पति के रूप में पाने को इच्छुक हूँ "

Yagyavalkya , pondered over Maitreyi words for a long time and finally spoke-"मुझे तुम्हारे पिता से बात करनी होगी। "

Next day Yagyavalkya visited Sage Maitri's home and asked for Maitreyi's hands in marriage. Sage Maitri readily agreed and so the two got happily married

Chapter 5 Vishwamitra pays a visit

After Maitreyi got married to Yagyavalkya, one day Vishwamitra paid a visit to Sage Maitri's ashram.Maitri received him with all due respect and honor. Then both get seated.

Sage Maitri spoke-"ब्रह्मऋषि आप यहाँ मेरे आश्रम में आये। मैं धन्य हो गया। कोई ख़ास प्रयोजन ?"

विश्वामित्र -" बस यहाँ से अयोध्या की तरफ जा रहा था तो सोचा तुम्हे बधाई देता चलूँ। "

मैत्री-" बधाई किस बात की ब्रह्मऋषि ?"

विश्वामित्र-"पहली तुम्हारी उपलब्धि -मित्र उपनिषद् और दूसरी तुम्हारी बेटी का विवाह , सही में अतयंत सुखद समाचार है दोनों। "

मैत्री-"शुक्रिया ब्रह्मऋषि। उपलब्धि की बात की जाए अगर तो आप की उप्लभ्धि के सामने मैं कुछ भी नहीं। मैंने जिस ब्रह्म की बस झलक पायी है, उसे आपने आत्मसात कर लिया है। आप पल पल उसमे जीते है। और जहाँ तक मैत्रेयि का सवाल है तो उसने अपनी राह खुद चुनी और उस पर चली इसमें मेरा कोई योगदान नही। "

विश्वामित्र-" मैत्रेयि शुरू से ही बड़ी मेधावी छात्रा थी। मैं प्रसन्न हूँ उसने एक उत्तम वर का चयन किया , तुम्हारी दूसरी पुत्री की तरह नहीं जिसने भावनाओं में बह कर अपनी जिंदगी ख़राब कर ली। "

Maitri was silent.

Vishwamitra again spoke-" सुना है आज-कल यहीं रह रही है तुम्हारे पास अपने पुत्र के साथ। "

मैत्री-" जी गुरुदेव। आपने सही सुना है। "

विश्वामित्र-" मुझे मित्रा से ऐसी उम्मीद नहीं थ। देखो मैत्री , शादी -शुदा स्त्री की सही जगह उसके पति के घर में होती है। शादी के बाद पिता का घर पराया माना जाता है इस समाज में। लोग तरह -तरह की बातें करते हैं -कीचड़ उछालते हैं। मै नहीं चाहता की तुम्हारे उत्तम चरित्र पर कोई दाग लगे। जल्द कुछ न कुछ समाधान करो। "

मैत्री -" जी गुरुदेव। "

That night , when food was served , Mitraa and Maitreya joined .

Maitreya -"माँ , यह कौन हैं ?"

मित्रा -" यह ब्रह्मऋषि विश्वामित्र हैं , पुत्र। "

मैत्रेय -"यह ब्रह्मऋषि क्या होता है?"

मित्रा -"स्वयं ब्रह्मऋषि से ही पूछ लो। "

Vishwamitra was trying to eat his food silently but when he heard Mitra's answer , he spoke,"ब्रह्मऋषि वो होता है जो ब्रह्म को जानता है। "

मैत्रेय -" यह ब्रह्म क्या है?"

विश्वामित्र -"ब्रह्म को ऐसे नहीं जाना जाता। "

मैत्रेय -" अरे आप कैसे ब्रह्मऋषि हैं जो मुझे ब्रह्म के बारे में नहीं बता सकते। "

मित्रा -" मैत्रेय , चुप रहो। चुप चाप खाना खाओ। "

Vishwamitra inwardly smiled at the innocence of this child.He then spoke-"तुमको ब्रह्म के बारे में जानना है न तो कल सुबह नाहा धोकर आ जाना मैं तुम्हे एक मंत्र सिखाऊंगा। अगर नित्य अभ्यास करोगे तो एक दिन तुम भी ब्रह्म को जान पाओगे। "

Maitreya-"सच !"

विश्वामित्र-"एक ब्रह्मऋषि कभी झूठ नहीं बोलता। "

मित्रा-" आपका धन्यवाद। "

विश्वामित्र-" इसकी जरूरत नहीं मित्रा , तुम्हारा पुत्र वास्तव में प्यारा है। "

Next morning ,as Vishwamitra had told , Maitreya got a bath, changed his clothes and came to Vishwamitra .Vishwamitra-"hmmm..तो आप ज्ञान पाने को त्यार हैं?"

मैत्रेय -" जी गुरुदेव , आपकी झोली में जितना ज्ञान है, सब मुझे दे दें। "

Hearing this , Vishwamitra started laughing.

Vishwamitra-"चलो बैठो। अपने ज्ञान का सार में तुम्हे देने जा रहा हूँ। इसे पुरे ध्यान से सुनो। "

Vishwamitra now started chanting:

"ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः

ततसवितुर वरेण्यम

भर्गो देवस्य धो महि

धियो योनः प्रचोदयात। ”

Vishwamitra then spoke :” इसे सावित्री मंत्र कहते हैं अगर इसका उच्चारण हर रोज 108 बार करोगे तो तुम्हारी बुद्धि प्रकाश से भर्ती चली जाएगी और एक दिन तुम ब्रह्म को भी जान जाओगे जिसे जान्ने के बाद कुछ भी जानना शेष नहीं रह जाता। ”

Maitreya thanked Vishwamitra . Then Vishwamitra went ahead on his path to ayodhya.

Chapter 6.1 Sage Maitri's Concern

Vishwamitra's words troubled Sage Maitri.His family had suddenly risen in stature due to his recent success and Maiytreyi's marriage to reputed Yagyavalkya but Mitraa seemed to be souring the taste .For some days, he tried to suppress his thoughts but the more he tried to hide them , the more they surfaced in his mind . Finally one day he called Mitraa to his kutiya.

Sage Maitri-"मित्रा , पुत्री "

मित्रा -" जी पिताजी "

मैत्री-" पिछले कुछ दिनों से मैं चिंतित हूँ ,पुत्री। "

मित्रा -" क्या कारण है पिताजी आपकी चिंता का ?"

Maitri remained quiet for a while .

Then he spoke -"तुम। "

Mitraa was shocked -" मै। मैं हूँ आपके चिंता का कारण। "

मैत्री -" देखो पुत्री, मुझे गलत मत समझना लेकिन समाज कुछ नियम कायदों से चलता है। एक ब्याही स्त्री अगर अपने

पिता के यहाँ लम्बे समय तक रहने लगे तो लोग तरह-तरह की बातें करते है। तुम समझ रही हो न मेरे कहने का मतलब। ”

मित्रा (quietly)-” जी। ”

मैत्री -” अगर तुम्हे आर्यताप वापस भेजना संभव होता तो कोई समस्या नहीं थी लेकिन .....”

Mitraa -”लेकिन क्या पिताजी?”

मैत्री-” लेकिन हालात वहां बिगड़ते ही चले जा रहे हैं। एक तरफ गृह -युद्ध की संभावना है तो दूसरी और आर्यतप और आर्यावर्त के बिच भी युद्ध हो सकता है। ऐसे में मित्र का यहाँ आना भी लगभग नामुमकिन है। ”

Mitraa-” hmmm....”

Maitreya , from outside , was listening to the conversation.

Maitri once again became quiet . Then he spoke-

“तुम दूसरी शादी क्यों नहीं कर लेती ?”

Mitraa was shocked hearing this.

“यह आप क्या कह रहे हैं ,पिताजी ? मैं पहले से शादी- शुदा हूँ और एक बच्चे की माँ हूँ, मेरे पति भी अभी जिन्दा हैं। ऐसे में आप ऐसा सोच भी कैसे सकते हैं?”

मैत्री-” मुझे माफ़ करना पुत्री, लेकिन हालात को देखते हुए मुझे यही उचित लगा। कब तक मित्र के इंतजार में बैठी रहोगी। तुम अब भी युवा हो , पूरी जिंदगी पड़ी है तुम्हारे सामने। मेरा सुझाव है तुम मेरी बात पर गंभीरता से विचार करो। ”

Mitraa was teary- eyed . She left the kutiya and ran towards her room . Maitreya too felt disturbed . For his young mind, it was hard to accept that his family is broken forever.Only a single thought kept repeating in his mind,” पिताजी नहीं आएंगे, माँ की शादी। ”

”पिताजी नहीं आएंगे, माँ की शादी। ”

By evening, his heart sank.He felt as if all the joys of his life had evaporated .Finally Mitraa came to

call Maitreya for dinner. She saw a sad -faced Maitreya sitting alone.

Mitraa spoke-" अरे मेरा बहादुर शेर, आज इतना उदास क्यों है ?"

मैत्रेय -" कुछ नहीं माँ, मैं ठीक हूँ। "

मित्रा-"hmmm तो यह मुँह क्यों फुला हुआ है ?"

मैत्रेय remembered his father's teachings.

" Never hurt your mother."

So he lied-"वो आज भूख जल्दी लग गयी , माँ "

मित्रा-" अरे तो मुझे आवाज़ क्यों नहीं लगाई। चलो अब और देर नहीं करते। "

मैत्रेय (stopping his mother)-" तुम तो ठीक हो न ,माँ । "

Mitraa pretending-"अरे मुझे क्या हुआ है? मैं बिलकुल ठीक हूँ। "

Then Maitreya further spoke-" आज मैं तुम्हे अपने हाथों से खाना खिलाऊंग। "

मित्रा -"क्या बात है? आज बड़ा प्यार आ रहा है अपनी माँ पर। "

मैत्रेय -" आज पिताजी की बहुत याद आ रही है माँ। "

Hearing this Mitraa again became teary - eyed. She holded Maitreya tightly to her chest.Both crying....

She finally spoke-"तुम्हारे पिता ने तुम्हे क्या सिखाया था ?

की वो हमसे दूर नहीं है।वो तो हमारे हृदय में बास्ते है।

सिखाया था ना। "

मैत्रेय-" हाँ मा। "

Mitraa -"फिर। चलो अब रोते नहीं । " आज मैं तुम्हे अपने हातों से खाना खिलाऊंगी। "

And so both mother and son ate the food together. The night finally ended .

Chapter 6.2 Mitraa meets Hari

Next morning when Maitreya opened his eyes, Mitraa was not there.Mitraa had went to meet Shri Hari.Hari was the childhood friend of Mitraa and a very kind- hearted man.Over time, he made his place in the vedic society. When she reached to meet him, he was already busy talking to someone.

Hari-Varuna conversation.

वरुण-" श्री हरि, प्रणाम। "

हरि- " आओ वरुण , कैसे हो?"

वरुण-" बाकी सब तो ठीक है, बस काम का बोझ थोड़ा ज्यादा हो रहा है। "

हरि -" अच्छा। "

वरुण -" सुबह - शाम हर समय बस काम ही काम , अपने लिए तो जैसे समय ही नहीं निकाल पता हूँ। "

हरि -" hmmm विकट समस्या है। तो तुम क्या चाहते हो?"

वरुण -" अगर आप मेरी सहायता के लिए किसी को नियुक्त कर दे तो अच्छा होता। "

हरि-" hmmm ठीक है , मैं देखता हूँ क्या हो सकता है?"

वरुण-" धन्यवाद श्री हरि , अब मैं चलता हूँ। "

Varuna left .

Hari- Mitraa conversation

Then Mitraa entered Hari's office.Seeing Mitraa after such a long time, Hari was both surprised and happy.

Hari spoke-" अरे मित्रा , तुम कब आयी आर्यावर्त। कितने दिनों बाद हम मिल रहे है। "

मित्रा - " वो तो है , और मैं देख रही हूँ तुम काफी तरक्की कर गए हो "

हरि smiled -" जो भी हो पर दिल से मैं आज भी वही हरि हूँ जो कभी तुम्हारा दोस्त हुआ करता था। "

मित्रा-" बातें बनानी नहीं छोड़ी। "

Hari ordered tea and snacks for Mitraa. Then he finally spoke-"और बताओ मित्रा कैसे याद किया अपने इस मित्र को?"

मित्रा- " कुछ ठीक नहीं है हरि। तुम तो जानते ही होंगे आर्यावर्त और आर्यताप के बीच tensions बढ़ रही है। मैं यहाँ पिता के घर फँस गयी हूँ। अब वापस भी जाना संभव

नहीं है और पिता के घर ब्याही पुत्री लम्बे समय तक रहे तो लोग तरह -तरह की बातें करने लगते हैं। ”

हरि-” यह तो गंभीर समस्या उत्पन्न हो गयी। बताओ मैं तुम्हारी कैसे मदद कर सकता हूँ?”

मित्रा -” मैं सोच रही थी अगर तुम मुझे कोई काम दे देते तो मैं अपना और अपने पुत्र का भरण -पोषण कर लेती , पिता पर निर्भर न होना पड़ता। ”

हरि ”अच्छा , बेटा भी है तुम्हारा। क्या नाम रखा है?”

मित्रा-”हाँ , मैत्रेय। ”

हरि-” मैत्रेय , बड़ा प्यारा नाम है। ”

Hari further spoke-” वैसे तुम्हारा विचार उत्तम है मित्रा , की तुम अपने पिता पर निर्भर नहीं रहना चाहती। ”

Then it strikes in Hari's mind that Varuna was asking for lessening the burden of his work. Mitraa would be the perfect companion.

So he spoke-”मित्रा काम तो है लेकिन एक समस्या है। ”

मित्रा -” क्या हरि ?”

हरि" तुम तो जानती हो हम पितृसत्ता समाज में रहते हैं यहाँ आज भी स्त्री का उचित स्थान गृहणी के रूप में देखा जाता है। हाँ कुछ exceptions हैं लेकिन वो भी मात्र दार्शनिक क्षेत्र में। एक working woman जो powerful position में हो , यह बहित नया विचार है लोगों के लिए। मुझे भय है तुम्हारी नौकरी का बहुत violent reaction आ सकता है।

Mitraa-"क्या एक स्त्री का आत्म-निर्भर बनना गलत है हरि ?"

हरि-" नहीं मित्रा , बिलकुल नहीं , लेकिन समाज में बदलाव एक दिन में नहीं आते। अगर तुम चाहो तो मै तुम्हे काम तो दे दूंगा , लेकिन क्या इस वक़्त तुम सामाजिक कुरीतियों का सामना करने को त्यार हो?"

Mitraa started thinking about the consequences .

Then she spoke-" इस वक़्त मेरी priority मै और मेरा पुत्र है। मुझे कोई ऐसा काम दे दीजिये जिसे मै शांति से कर सकूँ। "

हरि-" अब तो बस एक ही रास्ता है। "

मित्रा-" क्या?"

हरि -" तुम्हे मित्रा से मित्र बनना होगा। "

मित्रा- "मतलब- "

हरि-" तुम्हे गेटउप अपना चेंज करना होगा। अपने लम्बे बाल छुपाने होंगे और पुरुषों के बिच पुरुष बन कर आना होगा। अगर त्यार हो तो मै तुम्हारी सहायता करूँगा। "

Mitraa reluctantly agreed and joined varuna as his co- partner as Mitra.Here onwards , Mitra would be seer of dawn and varuna would oversee the evening.Together they would maintain the cosmic order in balance.

Chapter 7 The teachings of Mitra

And so Mitraa played the double role. At home, she was Maitreya's mother but to the outside world, she was Mitra, the friendly one.Now Maitreya was also growing up. Mitraa thought it fit to initiate him into the sacred mysteries of their cult.

One day, Mitra brought Maitreya to her room. There she told him," Son, you have grown up enough to understand these things. I want to initiate you into the sacred teachings of our cult."

Maitreya -" sacred teachings, mother."

Mitraa-" yes son.It relates to the worship of Goddess Anahita . She has been protecting our people for centuries ."

Showing him the small temple of Anahita in her room, Mitraa spoke-"It is by her blessings that I conceived you , my son.Are you ready to be an initiate ?"

Maitreya-" What will happen if I get initiated, mother?"

Mitraa-``These initiations will help you become brave like your father,son."

Maitreya-" really maa, then I am ready."
And so Mitraa initiated Maitreya into the sacred initiations of Goddess Anahita.She established a small temple of goddess anahita in Maitreya's room. Then she prepared the soma drink from the soma plant and gave it to Maitreya to drink..
Mitraa spoke -" Do not fear the process, my child. I am here ,you'll be alright."
Maitreya drank the soma drink. Soon his vision started getting blurred. Soon his state of consciousness altered . To Maitreya ,it seemed he was travelling through the dark recess of his mind.Maitreya screamed, horrified by the images……he finally opened his eyes …. His whole body was sweating.
Maitreya-" mother…"
Mitraa-" It's ok, my child. It happens a first few times.You rest now. You're alright. We 'll try in the evening."

In the evening

Mitraa again came, She spoke-" Maitreya, are you ready?"
Maitreya felt fear and reluctance.
Mitraa spoke-" How will you become fearless if you can't get over this basic fear?"
Hearing this, Maitreya spoke-"I am ready . mother."
Mitraa-" that's my child."
Once again Maitreya drank the soma drink, Once again his consciousness started getting blurred .Once again the images started coming into his mind but this time , Maitreya faced them bravely . He remained quiet, still till the images get passed and his consciousness settled and he found himself standing in front of the great Mother Anahita sitting on her throne.

Anahita spoke-"आओ मित्र पुत्र , तुम्हारा स्वागत है। "

Maitreya had never seen a goddess before. He was spell - bound by her appearance.Anahita ,

seeing that the boy is only looking at her single-mindedly, smiled.
She then broke the spell and the boy came to his senses.

Maitreya spoke-" आप कौन हैं? मैंने आज से पहले इतनी खूबसूरत स्त्री नहीं देखी। "

अनाहिता -" मै अनाहिता हूँ, great goddess। तुम्हारे पूर्वज मुझे ही पूजते थे। "

"तो तुम त्यार हो अपने पहले initiation के लिए?"

Maitreya replied in the affirmative.
Anahita then again spoke-"
You're starting to begin a great spiritual adventure. On this path, you will be presented with tests, trials and obstacles. You may have to suffer a lot but going through it successfully, you will emerge as a transformed man. So I once again ask, are you ready maitreya ?"
Maitreya-" yes , mother."
For the next seven years , Maitreya worked hard to master each initiation and after seven years , he mastered all the initiations and emerged as ayoung, beautiful, handsome man.

Chapter 7.1 The 1st Initiation: Surrender

Anahita spoke-"This journey is possible only if you place absolute trust in me. Can you do it?"
Maitreya-"Yes mother."
Anahita-" Then from today, forget that you're Maitreya. You'll receive your name only when you complete all the seven initiations.Do you agree?"
Maitreya-" yes mother."
Anahita-" From today onwards you're my slave. You 'll do as I command .You must profess absolute loyalty towards me.Go and meditate repeatedly-" I am Anahita's slave " till you feel it internalised .
Maitreya-" Yes mother."
And so Maitreya's vision blurred. He was once again back in his room. Mitraa was sitting beside him.
She asked him what happened ? Maitreya replied -" I am Anahita's slave."Mitraa realized her son had taken the first initiation.
In the night, Maitreya kept practicing "I am Anahita's slave." till he fell asleep and started dreaming.In the dream , he saw the beautiful

Anahita dancing with joy….. , when she saw him.Maitreya approached her-" Mother."
Anahita-" I am not your mother. I am your master."
Anahita-" Are you ready to do as I say?"
Maitreya-" yes master."
Anahita-" then strip and just sit."
Maitreya did as commanded . Soon the temperature started dropping….. It became very cold. Anahita disappeared.
Maitreya-" mother…mother where are you?"
There was no response. The cold in the dream became unbearable. The dream broke.
Maitreya was perspiring.
The whole day went normally.In the evening, Maitreya again drank the soma drink . Once again he was in front of Anahita.Now every night, Maitreya would go on inner adventures as guided by Anahita. Each night, dreams would be a command from Anahita that Maitreya must fulfill . He soon became adept in doing this.And so a whole year passed .
Maitreya was now fully surrendered to Anahita's will. One night when Maitreya again drank the

soma drink, he heard Anahita's voice-" You've done well my boy, far exceeding my expectations. Congratulations. You've passed the first initiation." Maitreya thanked the great mother.
After coming from his hallucination, he went straight to Mitraa to tell her the good news. Mitraa was happy but she cautioned Maitreya -" still next 6 are remaining , don't be over-joyous."
That night , there was no sleep in Maitreya's eyes. In one year , he seemed to have grown a lot.He wondered what's next in store for him. Will he be able to pass the remaining initiations or will his whole life be passed this way. There were questions , answer to which only time can tell.

Chapter 7.2 The 2nd Initiation:The Vow of Celibacy

As Maitreya drank the soma plant, his state of consciousness altered and he was in front of Anahita.
Anahita spoke-" Dear Maitreya , TIme has come for your 2nd Initiation. Are you ready?"
Maitreya-" Yes mother, I am ready."
Anahita then spoke-" Sexual energy is the great vital fluid that when conserved, can lead you to most lofty spiritual states.But so often, this sexual energy is dissipated and leads to weak and impotent man.So , dear boy I want you to take the vow of celibacy.You will not enjoy other women's sight. You'll not lust after them. You've nothing to do with them. Your lingam now belongs to me. Do you understand?"

Maitreya(without realizing what it all meant) spoke- " As Anahita commands."

Anahita further spoke-" This Initiation requires you to master your thoughts - sexual, emotional and

egoic. To master them, you need to practice thought control and the art of inner observation..”
Maitreya-” As you say, great mother.”
Then Maitreya’s vision blurred . He was back in his room.
Now Maitreya has started practicing abstinence. Every time he would see a woman, he would restrain himself. But the paradoxical thing was , the more he tried to restrain his glances, the harder it felt to do, the more sexual he felt himself to be.

Before this , he was not even aware of any sexual attraction towards the opposite gender, but now it seemed day and night….. , all he thought was about women, about their bodies , about their beauty, about their sexual features.Maitreya could not understand what was happening to him. The more he tried to suppress his sexual thoughts, with greater force, they surfaced in his mind.

Maitreya decided to talk to Anahita about this.But all Anahita would say ,' Do not give up. Keep striving .'
So many times sexual energy overwhelmed him but all Anahita would say,'Do not give up. Keep striving, my boy.'
Maitreya realized he was not going to get any help from her and he was also fed up with all this fighting, this resisting of beautiful women.Now even his dreams had become sexualized. So often he would wake up with wet pants.
Maitreya reflected upon his experiences. Then a brilliant idea struck his mind." What if rather than resisting all beautiful women, he focuses on the most beautiful woman he had ever seen?He remembered she had said-" your lingam now belongs to me."

And so Maitreya , without consulting Anahita, started focussing all his sexual desires upon her. He started fantasizing about cleaning her back, massaging her body. He projected all his

forbidden desires on her and imagined fulfilling them like her obedient slave.

Although this created a different kind of perversion within him, paradoxically it helped him master his sexual thoughts. His wet dreams disappeared. He was now comfortable seeing beautiful women around. Their beauty now did not affect him.

This attitude of his also made him immune to the love of a woman.He applied the same trick. He started loving Anahita above everyone else. Soon his attachments and emotional entanglements that could've been possible, were all eradicated.In one sense, this was the beginning of his becoming the heart-break kid whom women would both love and hate, for all he cared for and loved was Anahita and no one else.
Then came the egoic test.Maitreya applied the same trick.No matter who was humiliating himor what outer situation existed, Maitreya started seeing in all situations , the presence of Anahita.

In one sense, he enjoyed being humbled by Anahita, being overwhelmed by her presence.

And so ,one evening finally when he drank the soma drink, he was again in her presence. Anahita looked straight into his eyes. Maitreya, knowing what he had been doing, could not see her eye to eye.
Anahita spoke-" Never before, in the history of initiations, has somebody passed the second initiation this fast, my boy.Congratulations."

Maitreya (with eyes lowered)-" Thankyou mother."
Anahita, although she knew everything that had happened , pretended complete innocence and spoke-" Won't you tell your mother what you did to pass this initiation.What secret trick you employed that the most difficult initiation became a cakewalk for you?"
Maitreya-" It's my secret , mother."
Anahita(in a strong voice) thundered-" You're forgetting you're my slave."

Maitreya confessed what he did but he showed no sign of remorse or guilt.

Anahita then spoke-" You should not have taken this path, my boy.The mark of this act of yours, will forever follow you like a shadow.There exist no remedy which can cure your sin.You'll fall for this in each life time and in each lifetime, you'll have to pay for it."
Maitreya remained silent.
Anahita-" It's all right. What has to happen, has happened. Go rest now. We 'll move with our 3rd initiation next week."
Maitreya-" As you say, mother."
Anahita looked away.
The vision blurred.Maitreya was back in his room.

Chapter 7.3 The 3rd Initiation: Becoming the spiritual warrior.

Now Anahita initiated Maitreya into the third initiation. She spoke-" Truth, Justice, Beauty- these are the three cardinal virtues every Mithra embodies and defends even at the cost of their lives. Greed,violence, lust,ego,pride,lies,and negativity are the seven enemies of yours.Your task is to be like the warrior who defends the inner castle of truth, justice and beauty against these seven enemies. Are you ready?"
Maitreya-" yes mother."
Anahita-" so be it then.Let the journey begin …"
And so Maitreya began his new journey.Out of the seven vices,Maitreya was easily able to overcome greed for money and luxuries.He also displayed a great tendency for peace and non-violence.Of ego , he was already humbled by Anahita, but the remaining four seemed to be tough nut to crack., for he was proud of his father's lineage.He knew he belonged to an important family,He was proud of being a king's son and overall , he knew not everybody gets a chance to be initiated by a

goddess.Now how does he undo it all and become a nobody?
He sought Anahita’s counsel on this.
Anahita spoke-”It’s simple.Get out of comfort zone of your home, You want to be a nobody, then go and live in the forest and in the streets like all others do.”
Maitreya-” But how will I make my mother understand ?”
Anahita-``That's your problem not mine.”
Maitreya did as counselled by Anahita.He went to the forest to live. He realized, in the forest, his titles, his family, his pride was all useless. He was a nobody there who had to survive on fruits and leaves. Many days have passed. Now he truly felt like a nobody.
Then he came to live on the city's streets. Living there with other nobodies, he tasted the smell of injustice for the first time.
The taxation system was biased, based on exploiting the already weak. At first Maitreya did not want to get involved in all this but he remembered a mithra defends truth, justice , beauty with his life.He realized there is no going back.And so Maitreya organized the other nobodies together and formed a collective voice demanding the repeal of the

exploitative taxation system. Their protest was truly non-violent but it was silenced by the brutal violence of the king's men.

Thereater , Maitreya moved forward. By now, Maitreya had become quite young and despite his poor clothes , his beauty shoneThe beautiful Harem girls caught hold of this young pauper. They wanted to satisfy their lust through him.A few of them surrounded him.One of them spoke-"हाय, कितना सोना कूड़ा है यह, बस कपडे जैसे तैसे पहने है इसने। "

Another-"चल हमारे साथ चल , खूब मज़ा कराएँगे तेरे को। "

Maitreya-"नहीं, मुझे interest नहीं है तुम लोगों में। "

Third-"ठीक किया, उन दोनों को reject कर दिया। आ न मेरा नशा चख के देख। "

Maitreya-" हटो जाने दो मुझे। "

fourth-"अच्छा जाते जाते यह तो बता जा कौन है वो जिसके लिए तूने हमे रिजेक्ट कर दिया ?"

Maitreya-" Anahita!"

And Maitreya moved forward.
Maitreya now started his journey back home. He felt tired and exhausted. He thought of resting for a while when he got surrounded by negative thoughts.
He thought-" What am I getting following her? All she does is order me . She treats me like a slave . What's the point of all this… I am not growing. I am not progressing."
Maitreya wanted to curse Anahita for all the hardship he faced in his life.
But then a fruit seller was going by. By little money that he had, maitreya bought a fruit and started eating
That fruit tasted heaven . As his energy regained, he felt his thoughts also getting clear.He reflected again on what he thought about Anahita and came to the conclusion that nothing happens without a purpose. I may not be able to see my growth but that does not mean I am not growing.Thinking so , Maitreya continued his journey.He finally reached home.. He found Mitraa concerned and crying, praying to Anahita for his welfare. Maitreya narrated the entire journey to her.
In the evening , maitreya again drank the soma drink.

Anahita was in front of her. She spoke-”I am impressed my boy. You have completed the third initiation”
Maitreya-” Thank You mother.”
Thereby, after a long time, Maitreya was resting in the comfort zone of his bed.. Now he was in the transition phase from boyhood to manhood.

Chapter 7.4 The 4th Initiation: Transforming animal nature.

Anahita spoke-" welcome my boy. Welcome to the fourth initiation.This is the transition between your lower nature and your higher nature."
Maitreya -" yes mother."
Anahita-" If you successfully cross this level. It would mean you'll transform the latent animalistic energies into a beautiful expression of your personality. It is also called Taming The beast within, for each one of us carries a beast within , who controls our behaviour through our impulsive nature.But if you gain conscious control of this beast , if you're able to channelize this vast potential energy, then it can also be a means for furthering the welfare of all.Do you understand , my son?"
Maitreya-" yes mother."
Anahita-" so are you ready?"
Maitreya " yes I am ."
Anahita then started reciting special mantras , the sound of wild drumming could be heard… Soon Maitreya could hear a roar which got louder.

Next Maitreya remembers that a wild lion is staring at him, roaring loudly.
The voice of Anahita guides:
“ don’t fear this beast , my son. This is your innermost animal, the wild lion.You must tame it. You must not get defeated by him. Go tame the beast.”

As Anahita was saying this,the wild lion roared and attacked Maitreya.Maitreya was totally unprepared for it. He feared this wild lion.The wild lion was all over him. Soon the wild lion started making scratches on his skin.Maitreya was in deep pain. In pain he cried ,” mother.” and his dream broke out. When he woke up, he was heavily perspiring. He saw the injuries were real.

In the next few days, he felt the beast within. He would get an impulsive outburst towards his mother or anybody he met. He started feeling irritated and angry. He wanted everybody to serve him, much like a a lion wants to be treated like the king of a jungle. Soon there were tendencies of violence within him, as if he craved the fight and blood.

Maitreya realised there is no way but to tame the beast within.He closed his room and sat in front of the temple with firm determination that he would tame the beast. He drank the soma drink and found himself back in Anahita's presence. He found himself within the locks of the lion. The lion was all over him, dominating his whole being. He did not know what to do?
Then he heard Anahita again-"strike at the weak point. Strike at the weak point."
Maitreya heard her but couldn't understand the weak point. Since he was under complete control of the beast, the only possible attack was the feet of the animal.
Maitreya crushed the feet of the animal with his own feet. The wild lion roared in pain. His grip on Maitreya loosened but now the animal was angrier than before.

Seeing that he had angered the lion. Maitreya started running away, when he heard the voice of Anahita again-" You fool, why are you running away. You have to face the beast to tame it."
But Maitreya was in no mood to listen. He kept running and running till he started losing his

breath. The lion too ran towards maitreya . It too was tired. Maitreya saw fire sticks nearby. He took one of them immediately to defend himself. The lion once again attacked but Maitreya defended himself this time with the fire stick. The tired lion got several fire wounds. It cried in pain.
Soon the dream evaporated.
Maitreya was back in his room. Over the next few days, the lion once again asserted . At different points of time, Maitreya felt different impulses but this time he was more in control. He remained still and observed impartially the tendencies within. Soon these tendencies stopped coming.
Next time when Maitreya drank the soma drink, he once again was transported to the temple of Anahita .He saw the wild lion wounded and tired.Maitreya felt compassion for the animal.
Anahita spoke-" you did well.Although it took you some time to overcome, you've finally been able to tame the beast.
Now it's time for integration of your animal nature into your self.Anahita again began chanting the special mantras. A spirit animal descended from above in the form of white

light and merged with the wounded lion. All the wounds of the lion got healed.In place of the aggressive lion was now a wise, radiant lion standing in front of Maitreya. Maitreya feared the lion would attack again… but Anahita spoke -" Have no fear, Maitreya. HE is now your friend . Move forward and embrace him."
Maitreya reluctantly stepped forward and touched the head of the wise lion.The wise lion spoke-" Master,I am at your service."
Maitreya was surprised that the lion was speaking. He patted his head more as a sign of his love. The lion seemed to be enjoying the attention.
Finally Anahita spoke-" it's time for blending to begin. Shall we start maitreya?"
Maitreya-" yes mother."
Soon the wise radiant lion began merging with Maitreya's being. Maitreya felt a different energy within himself. There were some hairs on his chest. His physical features underwent a change.He felt more masculine than he ever had but this was not the wounding type but the protecting energy.He felt a surge of courage within. In short, he felt more whole

and integrated. Maitreya thanked the great mother and so ended the 4th initiation.

Chapter 7.5 The 5th Initiation: Activating one’s Higher nature.

Maitreya was in the temple of Anahita.Anahita began speaking-” Maitreya , you’ve done well till now. You are worthy of my respect.”
Maitreya-” Thankyou mother.All this has been possible because of you.”
Anahita then spoke-” Now I am initiating you to your higher nature, the part of you that is immortal. Maitreya, do you wish to become immortal?”
Maitreya-” I never gave it a thought , Anahita.”
Anahita-” Now listen. We all have a soul, an immortal part of our being and our physical body which is perishable in nature. Usually ordinary people live in ignorance of their higher nature, their soul but not an initiate. An initiate is consciously in touch with one’s soul and does the work assigned by one’s soul. Are you getting it?”
Maitreya-” Yes mother.”
Anahita continued-” Our souls gather experiences through multiple lifetimes, thus becoming richer.Therefore, we don't die , we

simply reincarnate through multiple lives.Do you have any questions?”
Maitreya-” yes mother. What benefit accrues by connecting with our soul?”
Anahita-” good question. You experience greater peace. Greater love. Greater serenity and greater oneness with all life.You connect with the realm of the invisibles and get invisible guides and helpers that are all around you but you are unaware of .So are you ready?”
Maitreya-” sounds cool to me. Let’s begin.”
Anahita-” Then close your eyes and follow my guided meditation.”
Maitreya did as instructed.
Anahita-” I, Anahita, the great goddess of Ancient wisdom , invoke the soul of maitreya to be present here. Maitreya , you are now feeling sleepy, more sleepy. You are now dreaming. A vast landscape. There exists a temple , the temple of souls. Enter it, call upon your soul.Your soul is now approaching closer and closer. Maitreya , you’re now in the presence of your soul.
Do you wish to tell it something?”
Maitreya-” hmmm hello buddy?”

Anahita continued-” Your soul is smiling . It wants to blend with you. Are you ready?”
Maitreya -” Yes , I am ready.”
Anahita continued-” the blending is happening You are becoming one with your soul now.”
While Anahita was speaking, Maitreya did not felt anything, nor did he see anyone .But customarily he thanked Anahita and came out of trance.
Over the next few days, Maitreya repeated doing what Anahita was guiding. While it all looked very imaginary, ...finally one day Maitreya felt the effect of a much larger energy behind him.
He Thought-” shit my soul is active now. This really worked.”
Soon he started receiving impressions in his mind.
……images of the near future...he saw a man clad in tiger skin. Next he saw a beautiful man with an exquisite smile, he then saw a fiery lady…. He could not make sense of any of these.
He again drank the soma plant and communed with Anahita,

Maitreya-” I have been seeing images these days but i could not comprehend them. I know none of these people.”
Anahita-” you have been given a glimpse of your future.It’s a message from your soul.Trust it and let it guide you.”
Maitreya-” okay Anahita as you say.”
Over the next few weeks , Maitreya started developing his relationship with his soul. He started getting to know what was about to happen before it actually happened, He seemed to be enjoying the honeymoon period.
Then came the period of tests.The invisibles started testing him.The first was a test of trust. Initially all went well , but soon he failed the test of trust.
When Anahita came to know about it, she regretted it.
“You had the capacity to hold it longer but you broke.”
Maitreya-” It seems to me very odd …..who am I to trust….. What is this thing called soul. I still don’t understand it.”
Then came the test of self-control(letting go of control)
Again although maitreya strived but he could not fully let go.When Anahita came to know

about this 2nd failure, she became perturbed. This should not have happened .
Maitreya too felt like a failure. All was going so well, but on this initiation , he ruined it.
Anahita spoke-" Had you succeeded in these two tests…..your heart and crown chakra would have been activated by your soul, but since you've failed , you have to wait for another opportunity.
Maitreya-" I am sorry , mother."
Anahita-" It's all right. It's a missed opportunity. For the time being , be happy that your soul is active. Keep practising guided meditation."
Maitreya-" yes mother."
And so passed many days of maitreya. Maitreya felt despondent at his failure but Anahita made him see that looking at the past will do him no good. He needs to work for the future.
Maitreya nodded. It took him some time to recover, and then he was ready for the next initiation.

Chapter 7.6 The 6th Initiation: The Sun

Maitreya at the temple of Anahita.
Anahita says-" Maitreya, you're now entering into the 6th initiation in which the secret mysteries of nature are going to be revealed."
Maitreya was excited. He was always intrigued by the marvellous nature he beheld and wanted to understand its mysteries.
Anahita spoke-" Are you ready?"
Maitreya-" yes mother."
Anahita began-" The Sun is the primary source of energy in both the physical and subtle world. But the Sun is not just a ball of fire . It is a conscious, radiant being with whom you can communicate."
Maitreya (feeling excited):" really mother."
Anahita-"Yes. You can make Surya your best friend and over time, Surya can illuminate your mind about the knowledge of the outer and inner worlds. I suggest you start meditating on surya from tomorrow morning and till your learnings get completed , don't connect with me. I don't want to see you fail again."
Maitreya-"I won't disappoint you this time ."

Anahita-” the invocation is ‘om suryaya namah:’
Maitreya thanked Anahita and came back to his normal consciousness. He then started meditating on the Sun as instructed by her.For the next 7 days, he continuously meditated on the mantra-’ Om suryaya namah:’
Finally he heard the voice-” Open your eyes , Maitreya.”
Maitreya opened his eyes . There was nobody except the blazing sun.The voice spoke again-” I am Surya.”
Maitreya (puzzled) spoke-” from where are you speaking, surya deva. Why can’t I see you?”
Surya started smiling-”I am right in front of you, the big ball of fire….can’t you see me ?”
Maitreya felt odd….he had never communed with nature like this.He never thought he could speak with natural forces like this .
Then Maitreya spoke-” Anahita had instructed me to meditate on you. Do you know her?”
Surya-” Who does not know the great goddess of persia ?”
Maitreya was surprized-”The sun knows.”

Maitreya then spoke-”She had instructed me to take you as my guru and learn from you the secret mysteries of nature.”
Surya-” So you want to know about the secret mysteries ?”
Maitreya-” yes.”
Surya-” And may I know why?”
Maitreya-” because I have a deep thirst to understand the nature around me. I want to understand the beautiful nature, the great unknown.”
Surya-” I appreciate your thirst. I’ll illuminate your mind.
Are you ready?”
Maitreya (feeling excited)-” yes… yes “

And so Surya started instructing him.
He first taught him the art of sun gazing in the morning and in the evening.
Maitreya-``Suryadeva, what happens with sun-gazing?”
Surya-” It activates your ajna chakra… illumines it… when ajna chakra functions well.. You’re able to grasp even difficult subjects. In short, you can see clearly.”

Then Surya taught Maitreya the art of absorbing solar prana and recharging one's body with its high vibrating light.Sun spoke-" This light is food in the purest sense of the term.Absorbing light daily will transform the nature of your cells."
Maitreya started practising the teachings of the sun with his whole heart. He also feared soon tests would occur and he cannot afford to lose.
Then came the third week.
Surya started teaching Maitreya the art of transmitting light to beings for healing purposes. It was almost magical . Maitreya applied the teaching on a stray dog who was wounded.He first absorbed the solar prana and charged his body with light. When he felt the light quotient in his body was sufficient, he started directing them towards the wounded dog. Maitreya did it for half an hour and he found the dog's wounds getting healed.
The dog felt better. He could even see a sense of gratitude in the eyes of that dog.
Maitreya was jubilant.
He spoke-" Surya deva, this is pure magic."
Surya-" no maitreya this is science, one day you will understand that what appears as

magic to ordinary eyes is nothing but higher science.”
And so Maitreya’s time with the sun was passing.Maitreya was on high alert that soon the sun god would start testing him and he cannot fail this time.He practiced the teachings very diligently.
Soon he mastered the art of absorbing solar prana and using it for healing purposes. Surya deva was impressed by his dedication towards mastering higher science.Then he taught Maitreya the art of developing a radiant aura.Finally Surya deva taught Maitreya to align with the will of the universe.
Maitreya thanked surya deva

Finally Surya spoke-” I have transmitted all the important basics that you need at this stage of spiritual growth. It was a pleasure meeting you. Now you can rejoin Anahita.”
Maitreya-” But Tests??”
Surya-” Your mastering of my teachings in record time was your test. Don’t worry, your 6th initiation is complete.”
Maitreya sighed a sense of relief.

Chapter 7.7 The last Initiation: The sacred union.

When Maitreya once again drank the soma plant…. After such a long period of time, he found dizziness. Soon his state of consciousness altered and he once again was at the temple of Anahita.

Anahita-" welcome my son…..you have made me proud."

Maitreya-" me?"

Anahita-" Surya was all praise for you. He told me you 've trained him well . He seemed to be really impressed by you.''

Maitreya-" Thank You mother….if not you…this journey would not have been possible.''

Anahita-" Our journey is still not over. You still have one last initiation to complete. Are you ready?"

Maitreya-" yes I am."

Anahita spoke-"Maitreya, this initiation is called the sacred union. We all are made of both energies - masculine and feminine. But usually we identify with either masculine or feminine archetypes . This leads to imbalance in our personality, which further leads to an imbalanced world-view, leading to war,

violence, ecological crises and no matter what?So what's the way?"
Maitreya was listening curiously.
Anahita continued-" The way is to stop denying the other half, to embrace and integrate our feminine energies with our masculine energies….. To become ardhanareshwar.
Are you getting it Maitreya?"
Maitreya -"No mother. I am a male .You're female
This I can understand but you're saying that I also have a feminine side . How come I never knew about it?"

Anahita-" because it is suppressed , dear maitreya. Like the wounded animal that you became aware of , you are also carrying the wounded feminine within. You need to awaken her from her deep sleep, allow her to express herself and then heal her and integrate her. Do you get it now?"
Maitreya-" I am getting it now. So how do I go about this whole thing."
Anahita-" easy… from now onwards you're going to act as if you're a female."
Maitreya-" me- female?"

Anahita -” Yes , start dressing like a woman. Start imagining yourself as a sexy, radiant, beautiful woman.”
Maitreya felt erotic . listening to Anahita. He spoke in the affirmative. When he came out of trance, he knew he must do it, for if he wants to complete the last initiation.
He started dressing himself with his mother’s clothing, started imagining himself as a girl and to his shock, he started feeling like he is actually a woman.
Then he again went into a trance.
Anahita further instructed-”Now start dancing like a woman, start imagining boys looking at you with such glances, start feeling love.”To maitreya’s shock, all these feelings start surfacing within him.
“What is this happening? Am I becoming a girl.?
What of my manhood?”- thought maitreya.
The more he felt like a girl, the less masculine he felt.
He described his experiences to Anahita.
Anahita smiled. She spoke-” Don’t worry… you can access your masculine side at will … whenever you desire.”

Once Maitreya's feminine side was activated fully, Anahita spoke-" Now start invoking both masculine and feminine side together. She taught him the idea of role playing. She named the feminine side of maitreya as Kamli."
When Maitreya started doing that , he saw one moment he acted the masculine maitreya another moment feminine kamli. Soon he was able to make Maitreya talk with kamli, He was able to invoke both energies simultaneously.

Anahita was impressed. Anahita then spoke-" you've done quite well , son of Mithra. Now comes the last and most critical stage of this process. Are you ready Maitreya?"
Maitreya-" yes mother."
Anahita-" Then invoke your soul which is the genderless divine . It is your soul which is going to tie the knot between Maitreya and kamli and blend the two energies in the most perfect way. Humans by themselves cannot do this."
Maitreya -" As you say so, dear mother."
Maitreya invoked the presence of his soul. Soon he felt surrounded on all sides by his soul.

Then Anahita spoke-” I command the soul of maitreya to unite the two poles of his being into one and bless him with wholeness.Amen,amen,amen.”
Maitreya closed his eyes and he felt the merging of his masculine and feminine side into the infinite void within.
When he opened his eyes, he could feel the shift.He had become a beautiful man.
He retained the masculine nature but it seemed touches of feminine energy enhanced his appeal.He had beautiful hair, beautiful eyes , his smile acquired a seductive look. He looked different.
One can say he was the first beautiful man of his time, if ever such a concept existed.
When he opened and looked at Anahita, she was smiling with tears in her eyes.
Anahita spoke-” You did it, my boy. When you started this journey, you were just a child, but look, today you are a Mithra, you are transformed into a beautiful, handsome man.I am so proud of you.”

Maitreya-” Thank You mother. I’ll never forget this momentous journey with you.”

Anahita-” me too..remember maitreya, whenever you need me , i am just a plant away.”
Maitreya-” yes mother….. Mother now what?” What’s next for me?”
Anahita-” Don’t you think your journey has ended . On the contrary , it has just begun. I am telling you this time. But here onwards you need to ask this question to your soul.”
Maitreya-” yes mother.”
Anahita-” Shiva, who resides in kailash is your next destination.
With lots of blessings and tears , Anahita bid Maitreya good bye. So ends the last initiation.

Epilogue: The Sacred Meal

When Maitreya told her, she could not believe that Maitreya had actually completed the seven initiations but she could definitely see the changes in his personality. One thing was clear. He was not the same young boy who had started the quest. He had indeed undergone the transformation. Mitraa was very happy for his son, who now looked like a fine young man.

That night Mitraa cooked the favourite meal of maitreya.

Together both enjoyed each other's company after a long time.After having a meal with his mother, Maitreya once again drank the soma drink. He was soon transported to Anahita's presence.

Anahita -``Come , my boy Have a seat. I called you. I wanted to spend some more time with you before you move forward on your eternal journey."

Anahita was in a celebratory mood.

She had arranged for bread and wine.

Together, both had the toast.She was , by now, drunk.

She started singing" aaj jaane ki zid na karo."

Then she started speaking her heart-”
Over the past 7 years, I’ve been watching and guiding your spiritual progress. I have seen your successes and your failures. You have made a special place for yourself in my heart, my boy.
Oh I wished you would’ve taken some more time completing these initiations, I would’ve got more time to spend with you.”
Come my boy, embrace me.”

Maitreya embraced her, She was tired and drunk.She put her head in his lap. Like a small child, she wanted to be relieved from her duties. Maitreya started stroking her head., saying,’’ anything for you, mother.’’
And so the night passed
When Anahita woke up. She saw Maitreya sitting there , stoking her head. She felt such tenderness for him.
Finally it was time for maitreya to leave. Anahita gave a passionate ritual kiss to him. The two of them kissed for a long time.Finally she said,’’ now.go’’
Maitreya came out of his trance. One part of his journey was now complete.

Part-2

Chapter-1 Maitreya meets Shiva

As directed by Anahita and taking the blessings of his mother, Maitreya left home to meet Shiva. Last night Maitreya had inquired of Anahita-" Mother who is shiva?How am I going to recognize him?"
Anahita spoke-" Shiva is that which is not and yet is. Shiva is ultimate reality, the one supreme consciousness pervading the entire cosmos.
Maitreya-" Is it necessary to meet him? Can't you teach me about this supreme consciousness?"
Anahita-" It is always better that you listen about the ultimate base of existence from someone who himself is living that reality."
Maitreya-" But how am I going to identify him?"
Anahita-" It's easy.... If you spot a person wearing a tiger skin, matted locks and ashes smeared all over the body... then know that that person is Shiva."
Maitreya -" And what am I going to tell him?"
Anahita-" Tell him I sent you and ask him the secret of supreme truth."
Maitreya-"Thankyou mother."
Anahita-" My blessings be with you."

Maitreya started walking towards the himalayas . On the road , he kept asking for Shiva and kailash. He found it strange-' while everybody seemed to know about shiva, nobody for sure knew where Kailash was.'The people lovingly referred to shiva as ' Bholenath, shambhunath, shankar , mahadev etc'. Maitreya wondered how he was ever going to reach Kailash but he kept walking and asking.But it seemed the more he asked , the more strayed from the path he began.He realised he cannot rely on outer people. They themselves didn't know.He had forgotten to keep soma plant with him , so Anahita too was unavailable.He remembered Anahita telling that one supreme consciousness pervaded the entire existence of which shiva would explain.So he thought.....'now if it is my destiny to reach kailash, my path will be shown by supreme consciousness itself.'
Maitreya started praying-"O great self, I want to meet Shiva who'll enlighten me about you but that will happen when I reach kailash. I ask for your help."

Soon Maitreya's soul was active. Maitreya would intuitively find the right path. He kept walking and walking, until after crossing many obstacles on his path, Maitreya finally reached Kailash. Shiva was sitting there with eyes closed. It had been an arduous journey for Maitreya through the many twists and turns, finally he sighed a sense of relief.

But now a new problem. There was nobody around and Shiva was sitting with eyes closed." Should I call upon him or should I wake him up ?" Maitreya was in a fix. He also felt thirsty. At this moment of time, all he wanted to ask of Shiva was where can he go to satisfy his thirst?"

But it seemed Shiva was lost in samadhi, unaware of his external surroundings. Maitreya decided to wait. He sat there on the ground.A long time passed. It was now evening. Shiva had still not opened his eyes.
Maitreya's inner chatter began.
" Is this the man who is going to enlighten me about the supreme truth?

Have I come to the right place?"
After some time-" I should look for some water around."
Maitreya looked around but could not find any source nearby.
Now Maitreya started feeling hungry too... soon he fell asleep.

Next morning

Shiva woke Maitreya. Maitreya's eyes opened. In front of him was the ash-smeared Shiva. Maitreya got terrified.
Shiva-"Who are you? What are you doing in my zone?"
Maitreya-"I've been looking for You. You must be shiva . Anahita sent me."
Shiva -" I know of no Shiva and no Anahita. Run away if you fear for your life."
Maitreya-" But ..... Then who're you?"
Shiva-" I am Rudra , the fearsome one."
Maitreya wondered -" In this big world, now where do I look for Shiva? After such an arduous journey,

I thought I had found Shiva but he seems to be a Shiva lookalike."
Then Maitreya spoke-"okay Rudra, I accept you're not Shiva but at least you can tell me where I can drink water? I am feeling very thirsty."

Rudra roared again-" You seem to not care for your life. It's better if I kill you and feed your head to my dogs."
The image of him being fed to the dogs struck fear in Maitreya's heart .

Maitreya-" Okay, I am leaving."
Maitreya started leaving. Rudra once again sat in his position. As he was about to close his eyes, Maitreya spoke-" Ah friend Rudra"
Rudra looked back with anger in his eyes." What now?"
Maitreya-" I've a question for you. Please answer me . Knowing this will make my journey worthwhile, or else everything will be futile."
Rudra spoke-"Ask what do you wish to know?"

Maitreya-" How do you remain so long with eyes closed? What do you do there?"
Hearing this melted the anger of Rudra.He finally smiled and started looking at Maitreya with love in his eyes.
Now Rudra spoke-" I am Shiva you were looking for. Come sit . I'll tell you everything you've come to ask me."

Chapter 2 Maitreya Upanishad

Rudra spoke-" I am Shiva , the one you were looking for."
Maitreya could not believe his ears.
Shiva further spoke-" I wanted to test your qualification to receive the supreme secret."
Now Maitreya was even more surprised.
"It means you know why I am here."
Shiva-" yes I know Anahita too. We are beautiful friends and much more than that."
Now Maitreya spoke-" O all-knowing one, please enlighten me with the supreme secret."
Shiva began preaching

"तत त्वम् असि। "

" You are that supreme secret , Maitreya,"
Maitreya-" me....??" Maitreya felt even more confused now.
Shiva, sensing Maitreya's thought , smiled. He continued,"
I can understand you feel confused .Right now you identify with this imperishable body of yours but in truth you're the imperishable one. Develop the

conviction in your mind that the supreme brahman and you are one."
Maitreya nodded.
Shiva continued-" you were asking me what I was doing with my eyes closed. Let me tell you now the secret path through which this conviction develops leading you from the mirage of duality to the non=dual oneness."

Maitreya's mind was fully receptive.

Shiva continued-" True knowledge consists in seeing one in all and all in one.Deep meditation consists of mind freed from thinking on sensory objects.Bathing is the removal of impurity in the mind and cleansing consists of controlling the senses.
This is the supreme path to attaining liberation from the bondage of body consciousness and living from the bliss of Brahman."

Shiva further spoke-" O friendly one, destroy the three inborn tendencies of worldly desires, lust for knowledge and body lust, and with the fire of supreme knowledge, achieve Vairagya(dispassion).Therefore embrace renunciation and free yourself of this prison of unreality.
I've now revealed the great secret and the path to attainment. Do you get it, the wise Maitreya?"

Maitreya felt like a fool, for he could understand none. Everything went above his head. Maitreya finally spoke-" I wish to know more of this Brahman that you talk about."

Hearing Maitreya, Shiva realised he had understood nothing. Shiva understood Maitreya's dilemma. To grasp the ultimate reality directly without any conception in the non-dual way is not easy. For such souls, there is another way, which will help them reach the same goal through a different path."

Shiva spoke-" It is good that you wish to know more about Brahman. Another name for Brahman is vishnu."
Maitreya-" Vishnu?"
Shiva-" yes . Vishnu. If you wish to know more about Vishnu, I know of a person who can guide you on this way. Would you like that?"
Maitreya-" Yes, very much."
Maitreya's eagerness confirmed Shiva that the indirect path of Vishnu is more appropriate for him than the direct path of Shiva.
Shiva spoke-" Then you should visit Sage Parashar and become his disciple.He is the one most learned about Vishnu."
Maitreya-" Thankyou Shiva, for guiding my path and satisfying my thirst for knowledge."
As he thought of thirst, he realised he had been thirsty all this while but had completely forgotten about it.
Shiva spoke-" Looks like you're very thirsty."

Maitreya(feeling extreme thirst) -" yes, yes for two consecutive days, I 've been without water. Please tell me where I can quench my thirst ? I cannot bear it anymore."

Shiva took him to mansarovar lake.
Maitreya had never seen such a beautiful , serene lake. When he drank water from it, it felt like heaven. He had never tasted such refreshing water. His whole being felt rejuvenated..
Now Shiva spoke-" Do you realize now that you're truly , verily Brahman.You're not the mind . You are not the body. Together they constitute the worldly maya. Before , when you were listening to me, you felt no thirst, the moment you thought thirst, thirst was all you experienced. Realize this truth and be free, My blessings are with you."
Maitreya thanked Shiva and left.

Chapter -3 Meeting Parashar Muni

Maitreya now started walking to meet Sage Parashar. His ashram was located in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. Having drank the waters of Mansarovar lake, Maitreya was fully refreshed . When it became evening, Maitreya took shelter under a tree. He started recollecting the events of the past few days....how he met Shiva... his teachings.... His demeanour..... Shiva was fearsome and compassionate at the same time.... Shiva made a deep impact on Maitreya's mind. Maitreya could not understand. From all outer appearances, Shiva was detestable and yet Maitreya felt attraction towards him, as if he too wanted to experience and live life wildly as Shiva lived. Maitreya was lost in such thoughts when he remembered Shiva speaking of Vishnu. When Maitreya had heard that name, it seemed something in the very core of him was stirred, as if he knew Vishnu. It was a strange feeling of knowing someone and yet not knowing at all. Maitreya tried to remember where he had heard about Vishnu before, what was his relationship to

Vishnu , who is vishnu? There were questions in his mind , of which there seemed to be no answers. Finally sleep took over him.

In the early dawn , Maitreya continued his journey to meet parashar muni, for it seemed only he was competent enough to solve his queries, to enlighten him about the deep mysteries of life. The whole day he walked. Finally in the evening, he reached the lake where Parashar muni was doing his sandhya aradhana.When Maitreya finally reached him, he was lost deep in meditating on a powerful mantra. Maitreya could feel the whole atmosphere reverberating with the power of the mantra. Since Parashar was deep in meditation, Maitreya decided to wait. He only hoped he had not to wait like he waited in kailash.He was also feeling hungry by now.
After an hour , Parashar muni completed his Sandhya puja and he was entering back into his kutiya when he saw a young man sitting there. He immediately recognised who this man was. A broad smile formed on his face.

Seeing that Parashar muni 's puja was completed , Maitreya approached him with folded hands. He was about to touch his feet when Parashar muni stopped him and spoke-"तुम आ गए मैत्रेय , मैं तुम्हारा ही इंतजार कर रहा था । "

Maitreya was shocked. " How come Parashar muni knew who I was and why he said-" मैं तुम्हारा ही इंतजार कर रहा था । " Questions again started troubling Maitreya when Parashar muni spoke:तुम्हारा मन प्रश्नो से भरा है ,है न।

मैत्रेय -" आप तो मेरे मन की अवस्था भी पढ़ लेते है। आप सच में महँ योगी हैं। "

पराशर मुनि -" जीवन में कुछ भी यूँ ही नहीं होता , प्रिय मैत्रेय। तुम्हारा यहाँ मुझसे मिलने आना पूर्व निश्चित था। तुम्हारे द्वारा मैं संसार को अपना सर्व अर्जित ज्ञान दे सकूंगा। मुझे ख़ुशी है की ब्रह्म ने मेरी प्रार्थना सुन ली , मुझे तुम्हारे रूप में एक उत्तम शिष्य मिला है। "

मैत्रेय -" ऋषि श्रेष्ठ , लेकिन आप ने तो मेरी परीक्षा अभी ली ही नहीं , आप यह कैसे कह सकते हैं की मैं एक उत्तम शिष्य हूँ। "

Parashar smiled.

Then he spoke-"जिसकी परीक्षा स्वयं महादेव ने ले ली हो , उसे फिर किसी और परीक्षा की जरूरत नहीं। आओ शाम हो गयी है , कुटिया में चलो। कुछ जल-पान कर लो , लम्बी यात्रा कर के आये हो। "

And so Maitreya started living with his Guru on the banks of parashar lake. The atmosphere was serene and tranquil . Parashar started preparing him by teaching him all the basics of yoga, vedas, and astrology. Maitreya , although from the beginning was eager to know about Vishnu, nonetheless followed his guru's guidance, for he knew nothing was hidden from the eyes of his master. When the right time comes, he'll instruct me. Parashar taught him about mantra japa, the art of concentrating one's mind on a single thought. The practice directly led to cessation of mind for a certain period of time. Parashar

spoke-” That stillness is Brahman, when there is no past thought, nor any future thought has arisen.”
“ Be absorbed in the bliss of brahman, Maitreya, the causeless cause of everything.”
Now for the first time, Maitreya had an experiential understanding of brahman. This basic understanding was important for Maitreya to understand the esoteric knowledge that Parashar was about to expound in the coming days , for the welfare of the whole world.

Chapter-4 Vishnu puran

Finally the day came for which Maitreya had been waiting. Parashar came and spoke-" So maitreya,are you ready to receive the knowledge of Vishnu?" Maitreya on hearing this was filled with joy.He spoke-" Yes I am indeed eager to hear it from you , master."
Parashar-" Being ready and being eager are two very different things . my son."
Maitreya-" Then I leave it to my master's judgement to pronounce whether I am ready or not."
When Parashar muni listened this, he realised Maitreya had matured in his understanding of wisdom.Parashar smiled." Your answer satisfies me. Now let's begin the auspicious purana, the story of the lord of all creation, Vishnu himself. Through you, it will be a great blessing for the world."

Maitreya and Parashar muni both took their respective seats. Parashar began by adoring

Vishnu in his myriad manifestations, then parashar spoke-" Now ask Maitreya, what do you wish to know about Vishnu?"

Maitreya (having saluted reverentially) -" What is this Brahman that you refer to as Vishnu? How did it create animate and inanimate life? How did the elements form? When did god and other beings emerge?.... I desire to know of you, master."

Parashar-" well enquired, Maitreya. Now listen. "
" Vishnu is the world. He is unchangeable , eternal, universal. He is the creator, preserver and destroyer of the world. He is both one and many. He is the one who liberates its worshippers. He is the root of the world and the world itself. He is the support of all things, the unchanged ,imperishable purushottama , who is one with true wisdom. He is the true ruler of the world. He is the supreme soul, self-existent, devoid of all distinguishing characteristics, devoid of birth and death. He exists everywhere and all things exist in himself. From him came spirit, matter, time and all that is

visible.These four forms mix to give diversity of creation. He is both the subject and object, the observer and the observed. He is both the agitator and the things to be agitated. He is the essence of matter.Vishnu is infinite, the giver of all good, the fountain of all happiness.”

And so Parashar continued telling Maitreya about vishnu. Parashar told him how Narayana birthed Brahma and how then Brahma populated the whole world through his sons and daughters. He told him the story of Dhruva and Prahlada, the two great devotees of Vishnu, who miraculously survived the many death attempts on his life due to the grace of vishnu. And so it was, their conversation continued for many days on the banks of parashar lake, where Maitreya kept inquiring and Parashar kept speaking, relating to him the histories of earth and the role of vishnu as its preserver

.In the end, Parashar asked," So dear Maitreya, do you still have any question? Are you satisfied.Have I answered to your satisfaction?"

Maitreya-" Yes master, you've illuminated the darkness in my mind through this holy puran of yours."
Parashar-" so now do you understand Vishnu?"
Maitreya-" Vishnu is still an enigma to me, master but one thing I am convinced of is that indeed the support of all things and beings is Vishnu. Vishnu is within me and outside of me. In truth, it was Vishnu speaking through you ,about Vishnu to the Vishnu in me. And I've also realised the path to greater understanding of vishnu is single-minded devotion like prahlada. I am indeed grateful to you , master for this great outpouring of yours , for the welfare of the world."

Parashar-" well said Maitreya. Contemplate on vishnu. Love him with all your heart and you will see Vishnu's mark on all existence. He is

everywhere and in everyone. One day it may come, you'll truly become Vishnu himself."
Maitreya-" Thank You master."

Chapter-5 Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra

Maitreya now started practicing devotion towards Vishnu, imitating prahlada. He would try to picture himself as a great devotee of the Lord, who is all filled with devotion towards Him but he could not achieve the state of devotion . After a month of practice, he went again to Parashar.

Maitreya-" Gurudev, I have been trying to develop devotion towards the imperishable Vishnu but it seems I am not being able to. Please guide me on where I am making mistake?"

Parashar smiled-" It is good that you are trying but it's just that your efforts are not aligned with the will of Brahman. Therefore you are not getting any results."

Maitreya-" I don't get you master. Please explain."
Parashar-"What you're trying to do is become like Prahlada when what you should be actually doing is being yourself."

Maitreya-" But you only told me that devotion is the way to know brahman."
Parashar-" Yes. Devotion is. But I didn't tell you it is the only way."

Now a light shone in Maitreya's mind.
Maitreya-" Then you mean, there are other ways too."
Parashar-" Yes, pious Maitreya. Now listen carefully. There are many ways to know brahman like the way of knowledge, the way of action, the way of yoga, the way of predictions etc etc.".
Listening that there are many ways, Maitreya felt confused. He started wondering-" How do I know which is my path?"
Reading his thoughts , Parashar spoke-" so you want to know which is the right path for you?"
Maitreya-" yes master."
Parashar-" There are three ways of knowing what is the right path for you.

1. You observe yourself. Look for the innate tendencies- your likes, dislikes , passion, interests, ,note them over a period of time

and slowly you'll start figuring out what'll be best for your personality.

2. You commune directly with Brahman- the all knowing wisdom and follow His will.
3. You ask someone who is a master of predictive sciences. He , by looking at your natal chart, the position of different planets in different houses, will calculate their effect on you and your life. This then leads to prediction of your future course of action."

Maitreya was in a fix.
Then Parashar spoke-" Right now , the first two options are not possible for you. But the third one is possible since I am a master of predictive sciences known as Astrology.
Maitreya felt reluctance towards this predictive science. He spoke-" Master, what is the use of knowing the future? How does it serve mankind?"
Parashar-" It has great utility, Maitreya.Knowing this science, you'll be able to communicate the will of brahman, by

calculation to others , the general people, who know nothing of the ways of the Universe.

For example, your prediction shows ill health for somebody in the future. Warning him in the present will lead to his course correction and thus preventing an unpleasant future."

Maitreya could see the point now.

Then he spoke-" Okay Master, I am desirous of knowing this science from you. May you please enlighten me on this."

Parashar was happy. Maitreya had proved himself to be a worthy student. Now Parashar began expounding the principles of astrology known as Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra.

He taught Maitreya about the great incarnations of the lord, about planetary characteristics, zodiacal signs, evils at birth, antidotes for evil, the 27 nakshatras , about the effect of the twelve house, effects of non-luminous and luminous planets.Then he taught Maitreya about various yogas- solar yogas, raja yogas, yoga for wealth,

longevity, effects of five elements, yoga leading to asceticism.Effects of curses and remedies.
Finally Parashar concluded his extensive subjects on which he continuously spoke over a period of many days, on the banks of parashar lake.Never before such an extensive treatise on astrology had been expounded before.Completing the exposition, Parashar spoke-' Thankyou Maitreya, for patiently listening to my masterpiece, my life's work. I am forever grateful to you.``
Maitreya-" I am the one who should be grateful to you . for having been illuminated by such great science. I never thought about the knowledge of prediction to be such a systematic science."
Parashar spoke-" Through you I 've given all my teachings to the world. My work with you is complete for now. I now have to follow divine will to my next task now."
Maitreya-" Master, I 've received the teachings, but even mastering them would take time, it still does not answer, what is my way to approach vishnu. You're already the master of this science .Please illuminate my path."

Parashar smiled.” It was fate’s desire that you listen to this great treatise, Maitreya. Now I ‘ll answer your question.”
Parashar-” As you can see, you’ve a great thirst for knowledge, so clearly your path to knowing vishnu is the path of knowledge.But simple reading about vishnu is not going to satisfy you. It will only lead to more concepts about something which is beyond all concepts. I suggest you practice Ashtanga yoga- the eightfold path of yoga along with your path of gyan.This will be the most fruitful thing for you to do.”

Maitreya thanked his guru. He was filled with reverence and admiration for this brilliant sage. Finally Maitreya spoke-” I am forever indebted to the great knowledge with which you’ve blessed me. I can see your work with me is completed. But I’m curious, can you tell me what’s your next divine task?”

Parashar smiled-" I knew your curious nature will not let you rest. You will definitely ask this question. It's all right I'll tell you."
Parashar continued-" A great drama is about to unfold which will alter the course of destiny of bharatvarsh.The lord has chosen me to initiate the unfolding of this drama. I am going to do that only."

Maitreya could not comprehend the cryptic meaning behind Parashar's answer. It was as if his master had cleverly side-tracked his question. He answered and yet did not answer.It will be only later that Maitreya would know that Parashar left him to impregnate satyavati, the fisherwoman, then known as matsyagandha, the son of hers- veda vyasa would father the lineage of Kuru family, leading to the great war presided over by lord himself.
Seeing Maitreya pondering over what he said, Parashar spoke-" Dear Maitreya, when the right time comes, you too will have a role to play in unfolding of this great Drama."

Maitreya-" me .....gurudeva!"
Parashar -" Yes dear maitreya, for you're now very dear to the lord and it is his desire that you'll have your act when the right time comes."
Hearing these words melted Maitreya;s heart.The great lord, the supreme brahman, vishnu himself loves me. It was a statement which brought great joy to him.
Now Parashar spoke-" It is time for me to leave. I must not delay in doing the divine task. You can stay here, doing your sadhana."
Maitreya-" but master, without you..."
Parashar-"I understand but you need to stay for two young people are coming here in search of me. You need to guide them in my absence. Can you do this, Maitreya?"
Maitreya-" yes master."
Then Parashar left . Soon he disappeared in the fog. Maitreya was left alone on the banks of parashar lake.

Chapter-6 Maru and Devapi

Many days passed. Maitreya was sitting on the banks of Parashar lake,paying his respects to the morning sun, when he saw two young men approaching him. Maitreya knew these two are the very same people that his guru had said about.Maitreya immediately closed his eyes and started pretending that he is deep in meditation. He thought,``Everybody made me wait , now it's my turn."
Maru and devapi finally reached the place where he was meditating.
Maru-" I think we've reached the exact spot of which Sage Narada told us about. This must be Sage Parashar's hermitage."
Devapi-" And this man ... Do you think he is Sage Parashar?He looks quite young, almost our age."
Maru-" Wisdom is not measured by outer age. Appearances can be deceptive."
Devapi-" Yes , you're right. Let's ask him about it."
Maru-" But he is lost in meditation. I think we should wait."

Devapi-" But what if he is not the one we 're looking for…. It will only waste our time."
Maru was still not convinced but Devapi went ahead and spoke-

" महाशय , क्या यह ऋषि पराशर की कुटिया है ?"

Maitreya(in his mind) -" कितने बेशर्म है ये लोग , मैं ध्यान कर रहा हूँ, इनसे इंतजार भी नहीं हो रहा है थोड़ा। "

Maitreya remained silent.
Maru spoke-"I think we should not disturb his meditation."
But Devapi still felt like a king who is not supposed to wait.

He again spoke-"महाशय , मुझे पता है आप हमें सुन सकते हैं। कृपया कर हमारे प्रश्नो के जवाब दे दीजिये , फिर हम चले जायेंगे। "

Hearing this , Maitreya thought- "पहला वाला ज्यादा सीधा है , ये दूसरा वाला तो एक नंबर का बेशर्म है , मेरी तो कोई वैल्यू ही नहीं है इसके नजर में। अभी खबर लेता हूँ इन दोनों की। "

Then Maitreya opened his eyes and stood up. He pretended anger in his eyes.

Maitreya spoke-" मैं जनता हूँ तुम दोनों को। तुम ऋषि पराशर को खोज रहे हो न , मैं ही हूँ पराशर। "

Both Maru and Devapi were shocked.They had not expected this to listen.

Maru-"कहा था मैंने , इन्हे यह भी पता है हम दोनों कौन हैं , अब क्या ?"

devapi -" क्षमा मांग लेते हैं और क्या ?"

Then Devapi spoke -" हमें क्षमा कर दीजिये गुरुदेव , हमे लगा आप कोई और है। "

Maitreya(in his mind) -" अब आया न लाइन में। "

Then he spoke-" ठीक है , ठीक है, तुम दोनों की पहली भूल समझ के माफ़ कर देता हूँ। "

Both Maru and devapi-" Thank You Master. आगे से ऐसी गलती फिर नहीं होगी। "

Then Maitreya spoke-" तुम दोनों की spiritual training अभी से शुरू कर देते हैं। "

Both -" अभी से!"

Maitreya -" क्यों,कोई समस्या है?"

Both -" नहीं , हमें लगा आज थोड़ा इस नए माहौल में ढल जाते तो ,"

Maitreya -" उसकी जरूरत नहीं, तुम कोई छुट्टी मानाने नहीं आये हो कुल्लू- मनाली। spiritual training is hard , सोच लो अभी भी समय है , वापस जाना चाहते हो तो जा सकते हो , लेकिन एक बार spiritual training शुरू हो गयी थें नो looking back."

Both-"जी master !"

Maitreya then spoke-" तुम्हारा नाम maru और तुम्हारा Devapi है न। "

Both -" जी "

Maitreya -" तो maru , तुम ऐसा करो रात के लिए लकड़ी और पिने का पानी की व्यवस्था करो - ठीक है। "

Maru -" जी master."

Maitreya to Devapi-"तुम यहीं lake के किनारे आज रात - भर बैठोगे , बिना बोले , समझे।"

Devapi -" मैं रात - भर इस ठण्ड में बाहर बैठूंगा। मुझे लगा आपने मुझे माफ़ कर दिया। "

Maitreya -" Devapi , इसे तुम सजा मत समझो। It's part of your spiritual training..तुम्हारे अंदर patience की कमी है , इसलिए , समझे। "

Devapi-" जी ,समझा। "

Maru-"बेचारा Devapi , कहा था मैंने , लेकिन नहीं, अब भुगतो। "

And so Both of them started serving Maitreya, thinking he is the great Parashar and that they are now his students.

And so few days passed. All that Maru would do is bring water and woods for the hermitage and Devapi started feeling restless with nothing to do ....none to speak.... How to spend the whole day and night.

But no teachings were coming from Maitreya .

Finally one day Maru approached Maitreya.
Maru-" Master, we too are desirous of your teachings. Please illuminate our hearts and minds."
Maitreya-" hmmm ..... What do you wish to know? I am particularly pleased with you."
Maru-" Shall we also call my friend , Devapi , if you allow?"
Maitreya -" okay. Call him."
Devapi too joined Maru. He finally felt a sigh of relief.
Now Maru spoke-" Please transmit us your teachings , master."

Maitreya-" My dear Maru, the world is an ocean of knowledge. I am also an ocean of knowledge, so it is upto you to tell me , what you wish to learn?"

Seeing both of them blank-faced, Maitreya further spoke-" Okay I can see , you two are totally

ignorant fellows. But don't mind , now you two are under my tutelege."
Now Maitreya spoke-" Do you wish to know the teaching of all teachings- the essence of truth, the supreme teaching?"
Hearing this, both their eyes shone.
Both replied -" yes master."
Maitreya -" Okay then, let me expound this for you."
Maitreya begins-" I AM the truth. I AM the world. I AM life and the base . I AM you. I AM he. . I AM the great oneness and the play of duality is also I AM. I AM the alpha and omega of creation. I AM the great intelligence. I AM the supreme love and I AM the selfless striving. I AM perfection itself. I AM Vishnu."
When Maitreya completed, he saw both were dumb-struck. They have never heard something like this.
Then Devapi spoke-" Only today I am realizing how great a master you're . Please forgive me for doubting you."
Maitreya-" It's okay, I 've no ill-will towards you."

Maru -” Your teachings are amazing , master, truly profound. But how do we realize this great truth in our lives?”
Maitreya-” Good question , Maru. The answer is Ashtanga yoga- the eightfold path of Yoga.”

Chapter-7 The Eight-fold path of Yoga

Now Maitreya began preaching.

" Ashtanga Yoga is the discipline by which you'll realise this great truth in your life."Maru and devapi were listening attentively.

Maitreya continued-" This yoga has come from Lord Shiva himself. However it was Sage Patanjali who has arranged all the steps into a systematic and scientific format for achieving oneness with the supreme truth."

Maitreya continued-" The eight limbs of this yoga are: Yama, Niyama, Asana ,Pranayama, Pratyahara, Dharana, dhyan and samadhi.The practice of this yoga leads to a state of tranquillity which is referred to by the great sage as 'चित्त वित्त निरोध '.When such a state is achieved , you commune directly with the creator himself., your self being absorbed in HIm, the highest state of bliss."

Maru-" Please explain the various steps , Master. We are eager to learn."

Maitreya-" patience , Maru, patience."

Maitreya then continued,"The first step is Yama, which means purification of the mind, for only a pure mind can reflect the light of truth as it is . Yama includes अहिंसा , सत्य , अस्तेय , ब्रह्मचर्य और अपरिग्रह ।

"

" The 2nd step is Niyama meaning certain observances or habits.

These include शौच(physical purity), संतोष(contentment) तप(austerity) ,स्वाध्याय(self-study),and ईश्वर प्राणिधान(faith in god)."

" The 3rd step is Asana. These are various postures which are good for the health of inner and outer organs."

" The 4th step is Pranayama which means breath control. It not only leads to greater inhalation of prana in our bodies but also helps us in regulating

the various mental and emotional states through the power of breath."

" The 5th step is pratyahara. It means controlling what one is eating through the senses, to regulate on what our senses are feeding and then slowly withdrawing our self away from senses within, much like a tortoise draws itself within its shell."

" The 6th step is dharana . It means trying to focus our mind on a single thought. When Dharana becomes strong, it leads to a state of tranquil poise called Dhyan(7th stage). And when one starts living from the place of dhyan all the 24 hours , one soon experiences the imperishable Brahman , the great I AM present everywhere, within you and outer of you. You feel at one with your big self. This is called the state of samadhi(last stage)."

When Maitreya finished expounding the 8 steps(imns of yoga, he found his disciples already

in a state of tranceMaitreya left them in that state and went to do his sandhya pooja.

From the next day, the three of them were together seen following all the eight steps of yoga . Both Maru and Devapi were very sincere aspirants. They took the teachings very seriously and started practicing sincerely.
Maitreya found that while Maru was able to master the mental aspects early, Devapi was able to master the physical postures and this was clearly reflected in their attainments. Maru showed a very tranquil face while Devapi enjoyed excellent physical health. Maitreya found his own practice average. He was neither a master of asanas and pranayama like devapi, nor a master of dharana and dhyana like maru . He started wondering ," are these guys getting ahead of me? What do I do now?"
Devapi also began to doubt -" Is he really sage Parashar?"
He spoke to maru-" Have you looked at him. He could not do any posture correctly."

But Maru had full faith in his master. He spoke-" Without his guidance, we would not have been practising this at all . We should be grateful to him. He is our master."

And so many days passed. Since Maitreya could not master sitting meditation, he started practising yama and niyama sincerely and living in the moment throughout the day. This worked wonders for him.
It seemed it gave a direct access to the ultimate truth- the oneness of life. He could sense the presence everywhere and he felt the peace and bliss which was indescribable.He exclaimed with joy," I've attained to samadhi.I've attained to samadhi."

Both Maru and Devapi were shocked. Devapi could not believe it.
" How is this possible?"
Maru approached Maitreya with humility," Master, please tell us about your experience and what you did that gave you such an experience?"

Maitreya spoke-” Dear maru, I worked on purifying my body and mind , while you focussed on meditation and devapi on physical postures. And then I started living each moment in here ,now, the eternal present and as I’ve said, the great truth got reflected in the pure mirror of my mind. This is my experience.”
Listening to this, both Maru and Devapi realized they had ignored the basics- the yama and niyama. They now started working on these aspects and so their lives continued.

Chapter-8 Vishnu-maya vilasini

And so Maitreya started remaining lost in ecstasy of the bliss he felt experiencing Brahman.One day when he was sitting on the banks of lake parashar, meditating on the morning sun, contemplating sun's magnificent radiance when he saw a beautiful , hot woman, coming out of the river. Oh! Her beauty was so enchanting . From top to bottom, she was youthfulness personified. Her one glance captured Maitreya's mind. She started coming towards Maitreya. Maitreya's heartbeat started racing up- down faster. Looking at him, she smiled.

Her seductive eyes, her red lips, her perfectly formed bosom, the more Maitreya feasted on her beauty, the more beautiful she appeared to him.

When she finally reached him, Maitreya asked -"

आप कौन हैं ,देवी ?"

The woman answered-"मैं विष्णु माया हूँ। "

Maitreya-"विष्णु- माया , क्या आपका विष्णु से कोई नाता है ?"

Vishnu-maya-"नाता तो बड़ा गहरा है। उनके कहने पर ही तो आयी हूँ आपको मेरे सौंदर्य का रसपान कराने। "

Maitreya-"अच्छा , तो कराइये न देवी। "

Vishnu-maya -" क्या?"

Maitreya-" सौंदर्य का रसपान। "

Vishnu-maya started laughing wildly. Then she spoke-"ऐसे थोड़े न , पहले मुझे पकड़ के तो दिखाओ। "

And so Vishnu maya started teasing Maitreya. Maitreya too liked being teased by her.Both Maru and Devapi saw the strange behaviour of their master but could not understand what was causing it.They saw Maitreya alone, giggling by himself.

Devapi spoke-"Do you think the state of ecstasy looks like this?"

Maru-" क्या पता ?शायद। "

Soon Vishnu-maya started playing hide and seek with maitreya. Sometimes she would hide behind Maru.

Maitreya(looking at Maru)-" Vishnu-maya , अब आ भी जाओ। अपने चुम्बन का रसपान कराओ , तुमने कहा था न। "

Vishnu-maya-" उसके लिए पहले पकड़ के दिखाओ। "

Maru , feeling embarrassed-" Why is the master speaking like this to me? When did I say anything like that?"

Devapi-" This man looks more mad than drunk in ecstasy."

Now , Vishnu-maya is hiding behind Devapi.

Maitreya(looking at devapi) -" अब आ भी जाओ , मेरी बाँहों में समां जाओ। "

Devapi-" He is truly lost. He does not even know what he is saying."

Vishnu-maya laughing **wildly.She then started running towards the forests."पकड़ो ,मुझे पकड़ो। "**

Maitreya too ran towards the forest.

Maru-" Master...."

Devapi-" जाने दो उन्हें .....he is not in the right frame of mind."

Vishnumaya hiding behind the tree . Maru and Devapi see Maitreya hugging the tree. Then Vishnu-maya disappeared. Maitreya asking the flowers, the bees,- " तुमने मेरी विष्णु-माया को देखा क्या ? अभी तो यहीं थी , पता नहीं कहाँ चली गयी ?"

Then all of a sudden , Vishnu-maya manifested in his back. She spoke-"

मुझे ढून्ढ रहे हो ?"

Maitreya-" हाँ विष्णु-माया , अब और नहीं दौड़ाओ , आओ गले लग जाओ। "

From far Maru and Devapi observe their master's activities . He seemed to be hugging someone but there was nobody .

Now Vishnu-maya spoke-" O Maitreya, I am the power of Vishnu . By my power , he rules the world . I am very pleased with you, my boy.Kiss me, boy, kiss me."

Her words stimulated Maitreya. It was already hard to resist her beauty. Her words broke all barriers . Maitreya was lost in her maya . He felt

her kissing him madly, wildly, stripping him , kissing him all over the body.
All Maitreya did was keep repeating-" ah vishnu-maya, oh vishnu-maya."
Vishnumaya 's embrace was too much for Maitreya to resist.
She then started negating the eight limbs of yoga .

She spoke-" अच्छा विष्णु या विष्णु माया ?

मैत्रेय -" विष्णु-माया "

विष्णु-माया -" मैं सत्य या मिथ्या ?"

मैत्रेय -" तुम ही सर्वोच्च सत्य। "

विष्णु माया - " कौन ज्यादा सुन्दर ?"

मैत्रेय -" तुम। "

विष्णु-माया -" कौन सुखप्रदायिनी ?"

मैत्रेय -" तुम "

विष्णु-माया -" तो योग या भोग ?"

मैत्रेय -" बस तुम्हारा भोग। "

“ ओह! विष्णु माया , तुम जैसा न देखा पहले , न सुना तुम वो फूल की कली, मासूम सी लगी , तुम्हारी नशीली आंखें , लाल होठ काळा घुंगराले बाल, ओह विष्णु माया, तुम्हारा ये रसीला बदन , यह मनमोहक यौवन , बस तुम ही तुम और कुछ नहीं। “

Vishnumaya laughed. She stroked Maitreya’s head with tenderness. Maitreya further fell under her spell.

Finally Vishnumaya spoke-” अच्छा प्रिय , अब मेरे जाने का वक़्त हो चला , चलती हूँ। ”

मैत्रेय -” मत जाओ न , तुम्हारे बिना मैं कैसे जीऊंगा ?”

विष्णुमाया -” अच्छा , तो साथ चलो मेरे फिर। ”

मैत्रेय - ” चलो ”

And so vishnumaya once again started walking towards the parashar lake. It was evening now. Maitreya too walked with her into the lake.

Devapi saw this happening -”maru , हमें रोकना होगा मास्टर को। ”

Maru -” सही कह रहे हो , जल्दी चलो। ”

They acted quickly and saved Maitreya.
Maitreya fell unconscious and so the day ended.

Chapter-9 Parashar muni returns

Maitreya was sleeping unconscious . Neither Maru nor devapi knew what had happened to their master, what was the reason for his strange behaviour, when a person reached the hermitage.

Maru-"हाँ , कहिये , किससे मिलना है आपको ?"

पराशर -" मुर्ख व्यक्ति, मेरे घर में रहते हो और मुझ ही से पूछ रहे हो की मैं कौन हूँ?"

देवापि-" माफ़ कीजियेगा , लेकिन यह हमारे गुरु पराशर की कुटिया है। "

Now Parashar was in a fix.

He thought," पराशर तो एक ही है , यह दूसरा पराशर कहाँ से टपक गया। जरा देखना पड़ेगा। "

So he spoke-"जी माफ़ कीजिये , मैं आपके गुरु पराशर से ही मिलने आया था , अपने नए पुत्र का नाम-कारन करवाने। "

Maru-"तुम अभी नहीं मिल सकते। हमारे गुरु अभी सो रहे हैं। "

पराशर -" अभी तक सो रहे है, तबियत तो ठीक हैं न , मतलब इतनी सुबह तक कौन सोता है?"

देवापि -" अपने काम से काम रखो। जब उठ जायेंगे तब मिल लेना। "

पराशर -" नहीं जी, वो पेशे से मैं एक वैद्य हूँ , इसलिए पूछा , बाकी आपकी मर्जी। "

Maru to devapi -" हमें मास्टर को दिखवा लेना चाहिए। "

देवापि-" लेकिन यह झूठ बोल रहा हो तो। पहले यह खुद को the great पराशर कह रहा था, अब वैद्य कह रहा है , मुझे तो इसपर एक निया भरोसा नहीं लग रहा। "

Maru -" लेकिन दिखवाने में कोई नुक्सान भी तो नहीं। "

देवापि -" ठीक है , दिखवा लेते हैं एक बार , देखते हैं क्या बोलता है यह। "

पराशर -" ठीक है जी, तो मैं चलता हूँ , फिर आऊंगा। "

मारू -" अच्छा सुनिए , एक बार हमारे गुरु से मिल लीजिये। "

पराशर -" ठीक है जी, आप लोग अब इतना कह रहे हैं तो मिल ही लेता हूँ। "

A broad smile formed on Parashar's face. When Parashar entered, he saw Maitreya lying unconscious . Immediately he understood all that had happened , who these two young people were, but he wondered how come Maitreya got unconscious?

Maru explained-" कल दिन भर विष्णुमाया , विष्णुमाया कह रहे थे। बड़ी अजीब हरकते भी कर रहे थे। "

Parashar understood what had happened. He made an ayurvedic paste , mixing certain herbs and made Maitreya drink that. Soon after some time, Maitreya regained consciousness.
Seeing his master, Sage Parashar in front of him , Maitreya touched his feet reverentially.

Maru-"गुरुदेव , आप एक साधारण वैद्य के पैर क्यों छु रहे हैं ?"

Maitreya-"यह साधारण वैद्य नहीं ,"

He paused , he knew time has come to reveal the truth , he again spoke," यह मेरे गुरु , the great पराशर मुनि हैं । "

Both Maru and Devapi were shocked.

Devapi-"मैं जानता था , मुझे सुरु से शक था ,यह व्यक्ति पराशर है ही नहीं। "

Maru(feeling betrayed) -" तो फिर आप कौन हैं ?"

Now Sage Parashar spoke-" यह मेरा महान शिष्य मैत्रेय है। "

Both Maru and Devapi in one tune -" मैत्रेय !"

Parashar again spoke -" हाँ मैत्रेय। मैं जानता था तुम दोनों मुझे खोजते हुए इधर आ रहे हो , लेकिन मुझे एक महत्वपूर्ण कार्य करने तुरंत निकलना पड़ा। इसलिए मैंने ही मैत्रेय को ये जिम्मेदारी दी थी की वो तुम दोनों का मार्गदर्शन करे। "

Listening to this, Maru felt a little better but still he felt Maitreya should have revealed the truth himself. He made a fool of our trust.

Then looking towards Maitreya , Parashar asked ,"

अब कैसा लग रहा है तुम्हे?"

Maitreya-" मुझे क्या हुआ था , गुरुदेव ?"

Parashar explained -" कल तुम्हारा सामना विष्णुमाया विलासिनी से हुआ था। यह भगवान विष्णु की वह ऊर्जा है जो एक पथिक को उसके राह से भटकाने का कार्य करती है। तुम पर इसी ऊर्जा का प्रभाव था। "

Maitreya thanked his guru for saving his life .He also thanked Maru and Devapi for protecting him and taking care of him. He also apologised with Maru , with tears in his eyes.Both hugged each other.

Finally Parashar spoke-" The tide of time has turned. A great drama is about to unfold. You three also have a role to play. The world teacher, the great lord , himself is going to descend with his full powers on earth. I want you three to start doing preparations for the upcoming event."

Maitreya-" What preparations , Master?"

Parashar -" You three go to Shambhala and renovate the place as the ideal village for enlightened beings. By the time the Lord descends, this work must be completed.
Maitreya -" As you command, master."
And so the three of them left for Shambhala.

Chapter-10 Where is Shambhala?

Maitreya, Maru and Devapi now left Parashar. There was eerie silence .No one spoke to the other for a while.They simply kept walking. Finally Devapi broke the silence.

Devapi -" हमें पता भी है की हमें जाना कहाँ है ?"

मैत्रेय -" Shambhala "

देवापि -" लेकिन Shambhala है कहाँ , यह तो तुमने पूछा ही नहीं। "

मैत्रेय -" तो तुम पूछ लेते। "

देवापि-" गुरु तुम्हारे थे और हम पूछते ?"

मैत्रेय-" इतने दिनों से उनके ही नाम को गुरु समझ रहे थे न तुम। "

देवापि-" तुम तो बड़े धूर्त निकले। "

मारु-" बस करो आप दोनों। पुराणी बातों पर लड़ कर कुछ नहीं मिलने वाला। "

मैत्रेय -" मारु ठीक कह रहा है। मैं तुम दोनों का गुरु तो नहीं लेकिन बड़े भाई जैसा जरूर हूँ। काम से काम अब कोई झूठ नहीं है हमारे बीच। "

मारु-" हाँ , यह ठीक है , आज से आप मेरे गुरु-भाई। "

देवापि-" तुम बहुत सीधे हो मारु, लेकिन दुनिया इतनी सीधी नहीं है। खैर हम shambhala पहुंचेंगे कैसे ?"

मैत्रेय-" बस चलते रहो , रास्ता स्वयं हम तक पहुंचेगा। "

देवापि-" लो सुन लो इनकी बात, कभी सुना है ऐसे होते। "

मारु -" विश्वास करो देवापि , भाई कह रहे हैं तो सही ही कह रहे होंगे। "

देवापि -" मुझे तो अब इस व्यक्ति पर एक पैसे का भरोसा नहीं रहा। "

The three of them further walked into silence. They continued walking through the forest . Finally it was evening. They decided to take a rest for the day.

Next day, they continued walking and so reached a city named Mithila. It was ruled by the wise king Janak .

Devapi mocked . " shambhala तो नहीं , मिथिला जरूर पहुँच गए। "

मारु-" भाई देवापि की बात सही है , कब तक ऐसे भटकेंगे हम सब। "

मैत्रेय -" मेरे गुरु ने राजा जनक के बारे में बतलाया था , कहा था बहुत ज्ञानी व्यक्ति हैं यह। क्यों न इनसे मदद ली जाये। "

मारु-" सुझाव तो उत्तम है। क्यों देवापि?"

देवापि -" हाँ यही बेहतर होगा करना। "

The three of them together went to the court of Janak. Seeing the three young men, Janak had never heard of them.Maitreya informed him they were disciples of sage Parashar. Hearing about Parashar rishi, a broad smile formed on Janak's lips.

Janak-" बहुत महान धर्म-ज्ञाता हैं पराशर। अतुलनीय। "

Maitreya then informed Janak about the purpose of their visit."महाराज , उन्हों ने हमें शम्भाला जाने का निर्देश दिया है , लेकिन समस्या यह है की हमे पता नहीं शम्भाला है कहाँ?"

Janak smiled .”आप तीनो चिंता न करें। मै आपकी मदद करूँगा। ”

Listening to this , the faces of Maru and Devapi shone.

Devapi-”क्या आप जानते हैं शम्भाला का मार्ग ?

जनक -” नहीं, लेकिन मै एक ऐसे व्यक्ति को जानता हूँ जो आपको वहां तक ले जायेगा। आप विश्राम कीजिये, मै उन्हें सूचित करता हूँ। ”

In the royal quarters of Janak.

Devapi-” मुझे पता नहीं था सन्यास लेने के बाद राज -भोग और आकर्षक लगने लगता है। ”

कितने दिनों बाद आराम की नींद आएगी आज। ”

Maitreya and Maru smiled. Then Maru spoke-”देवापि, देखो, भाई ने हमे सही जगह पहुंचा ही दिया। ”

देवापि-" पहली बात, हम अभी शम्भाला पहुंचे नहीं हैं और दूसरी बात , मैत्रेय की किस्मत अच्छी थी की हम जनकपुर पहुँच गए जहाँ राजा जनक हमारी मदद को त्यार हो गए। "

मैत्रेय -" मेरे गुरु कहा करते थे की कुछ भी संयोग नहीं होता , नियति हमे वहां पहुंचा ही देती है जहाँ हमें पहुंचना होता है । "

Then all three of them got fresh and rested .

Next Morning Janak called the three of them into his court. When they reached, they found another young man , who looked younger than them , was present, standing in front of the king.

The king spoke-" मैत्रेय इनसे मिलिए , यह हैं सनत कुमार। "

Maitreya's eyes shone. He spoke-"मेरे गुरी पराशर ने आपका जिक्र किया था जब वह मुझे विष्णु पुराण पढ़ा रहे थे। "

सनत कुमार -" तो आप हैं मैत्रेय ?"

Everybody including King Janak was surprised.

Janak inquired -"सनत , क्या आप जानते हैं मैत्रेय को?"

सनत कुमार -" राजन , यह महान गुरु के महान शिष्य हैं। वही पात्र जल ग्रहण कर पता है जिसकी क्षमता होती है।
विष्णु पुराण जैसे महान ग्रंथ को स्वयं पराशर मुनि से ग्रहण करना कोई साधारण घटना नहीं है यह। "

Now even Maitreya was realising that his Guru's fame spread far and wide. He himself was unaware of his Guru's greatness when he had approached him.This thought kept repeating in his head-"महान गुरु का महान शिष्य। "

Maitreya wondered -"क्या सच में मै भी महान हूँ ?"

He tried to visualise himself as a great sage respected far and wide like his Guru

.राजा जनक -" मैत्रेय , कहाँ खो गए ?"

Maitreya, coming to his senses-" कुछ नहीं, बस मुझे मेरे गुरु का स्मरण हो आया। मै स्वयं भी उनकी महानता से अनभिज्ञ था। "

Sanat Kumar smiled .

Then devapi spoke to Sanat kumar-" क्षमा कीजियेगा , लेकिन क्या आप हमे शम्भाला तक का रास्ता बता सकते है?"

Sanat kumar -" बता नहीं , मै आप तीनो को वहां ले जाने आया हूँ। "

And so taking permission from King Janak, the four of them left. They all boarded the light-ship and the light-ship rising in the air soon disappeared.

Chapter-11 Shambhala's Beauty

In a night's journey, Maitreya, Maru , Devapi, and Sanat Kumar reached Shambhala. Since it was dark when they reached, they were assigned their respective quarters.

When the first rays of sun fell on Maitreya's quarters that Maitreya realised ' this is no ordinary place.'The beauty of Shambhala was needed to be seen to be appreciated. High on the mountains, it seemed white clouds touched the land. There seemed to be solar panels using the energy of the sun to power the entire area.There were Mountain rivers flowing. One of the attendants assigned to Maitreya , whose job was to make them familiar with the place, took him on the tour of this magnificent place. River waters flew in their pristine beauty and naturalness.Small check dams were made for the constructive use of water. Water Harvesting was practised.There were large trees all around the campus, hiding the place. There was a garden of exquisite flowers. There were many who practised agriculture. There were

nature scientists , observing nature and studying it.

Then the attendant took Maitreya to the inside of the big buildings. It seemed like a big university, with various departments assigned to different subjects.There were many involved in study of scientific theories , experimenting with technologies, others were exploring other dimensions of human life.

Then the attendant took him to the big libraries , which housed all the books of antiquity. There were also books from heavenly sources and books with extra-planetary sources, most notably from Sirius, Arcturus and Pleiades.There were Books with ancient records of prophetic destinies of earth, about the grand plan of God for earth.

Then the attendant took Maitreya to a big outer place, it seemed like a meditative hall, there were mindfulness bells, which regularly rang , signalling everybody to return to the eternal present moment.

Then moving further, Maitreya saw there were many ancient sages, lost deep in contemplation of

the divine, revealing the great divine mysteries.There were masters of yoga and then finally the attendant took Maitreya to the centre of Shambhala.
There were seven doors to it.The attendant spoke-" These are not ordinary doors. These are the seven portals to seven different worlds of the cosmos like a giant wormhole. It connects Shambhala and Earth to other advanced Planetary systems . At the centre was an open portal of light, a giant beam of light, which seemed to have no end.
The attendant spoke-" This portal connects Heaven and Earth. We can directly enter heaven through this portal."
Maitreya asked-" how high does this light beam go?"
The attendant spoke-" There are infinite realms of light. But for the sake of clarity, there is a kingdom of angels, kingdom of archangels, kingdom of devas, kingdom of bodhisattvas, still higher is the kingdom of saptarishis, Above them is the

kingdom of buddhas and highest is the kingdom of Hari and Divine Mother.

Maitreya could not believe his ears. He spoke-" These many beings and these many levels exist."The attendant nodded in affirmative. Having given him a brief tour of Shambhala , the attendant then took him to show the hospitals. Maitreya saw the most preferred method of healing was using solar light. Only in very severe wounds would physical remedies of ayurveda be used.
Then the attendant took Maitreya to the schools in shambhala . Here children , who looked like monks , were getting trained in various life basics. Maitreya could see the students were all inspired by the great leaders of the past. There was one picture of Buddha Dipankara, another of Buddha limitless knowledge. There were pictures of rudras, adinath, narayana and other goddesses of different traditions.
Maitreya also noticed work going on in refining new cultures, which will be then seeded on earth.

Now Maitreya started wondering-" Gurudev told me to renovate this place .I thought Shambhala must be some barren land but this place seems to be far ahead in time . What am I to do here?"
As Maitreya was thinking this, Sanat kumar alongwith Maru and Devapi joined him.
Sanat Kumar -" So Maitreya , how do you feel here?"
Maitreya-" This place seems to be out of this world. This is so different from anything I've witnessed till now ."
Sanat kumar -" We've been experimenting here to further human progress and evolution . Whenever a new discovery or a new prophet is ready with his teachings , we send him to earth to share it with humans. All the beings here are dedicated to serve mankind."

Maitreya-" This seems to be the perfect blueprint for the world."
Sanat Kumar -" Not perfect. We are still at a very early stage in earth's development. Despite all our efforts, it will take thousands of years for even

shambhala to attain perfection, but nonetheless constant striving is our mantra."
Maitreya-" Do you know why Parashar muni sent us here? He told us to renovate this place , but I don't find such a need ."
Sanat kumar smiled-" What he meant was to renovate yourself. Shambhala is the best place to unleash your potential , Maitreya, so that one day your light too will shine in the world."
And so the day passed for Maitreya in Shambhala.

Chapter-12 Who am I?

And so Maitreya started making himself comfortable in this new surrounding but then a strange feeling was capturing him . Everyone he met there ... they had a strange look in their eyes.... They would murmur -" Oh my god . He had come . He is here again. He had returned."
Some would say-" He looks exactly the same ."
Maitreya could not understand them. Finally a week passed like this. When it became too much for Maitreya to hold , he went to sanat kumar to get his queries solved.
Maitreya spoke-" Sanat , from the very day I've come , I've a feeling that people here know me as if they had met me before."
Sanat kumar was silent.Sanat Kumar then spoke-" And?"
Maitreya continued-" But this is not possible . I've never been to this place before."
Sanat Kumar-" You do not remember anything at all , do you?"
Maitreya-" What should I be able to remember?"

Sanat kumar-" Your true origins. Who are you?This is the most profound question you'll ever ask yourself ."
Maitreya -" And how much time will it take for me to know who I am ?"
Sanat kumar-" Nobody can tell that. It can take ages or it can happen in an instant."
Maitreya" Look, all I want to know is an answer of why people are behaving strangely with me . I believe you know the answer. Then why don't you tell me ?"
Sanat kumar-" I can't even if I wanted to."
Maitreya-" Why not?"
Sanat kumar-" Because there is divine timing for everything to happen . I am bound by Divine's will. I am sorry. It is better if you ask yourself-' Who am I?'"
Maitreya-" What kind of bullshit is this? I know who I am . I am Maitreya."
Sanat Kumar-" But do you know who Maitreya is ?"
It was a strange question posed by Sanat Kumar , but one pregnant with lots of possibilities.

Maitreya was struck by the intensity of this question, as if clean bowled.
Maitreya spoke-" Who is Maitreya?"
Sanat kumar -" Right now you said you know yourself, then why are you asking me now ."
Maitreya was now getting frustrated .
Sanat kumar -" Frustration will produce only more frustration. It will lead you nowhere. If you are indeed serious about getting answers, then follow my advice and go meditate on who is Maitreya?"
Maitreya returned back to his room. Then he went to meet Maru and Devapi .
Maru-" Bhai, aap ?"

Maitreya-हाँ , मन नहीं लग रहा था मेरा। "

Devapi-" ah....master....आइये न, बैठिये , please "

Maitreya(looking at Devapi with surprise) -" इसे क्या हो गया ?"

Maru pretended ignorance.

Now Devapi spoke-"मुझे माफ़ कर दीजिये , master .मैं आपको जानता नहीं था न..... "

Maitreya stopped him midway-" जानता नहीं का मतलब , अब तुम कुछ जानते हो जो पहले नहीं जानते थे। "
Maru signalled Devapi to be quiet.
Maru now spoke-" नहीं भाई , वो हम लोगों को आपने शम्भाला पहुंचा दिया न , तो बस वही देवापि को अपने भूल का आभास हो रहा ह। "
Devap murmured i -" पहुंचना तो था ही , इनका इतना strong connection जो है शम्भाला से। "
Maitreya listened to this . He spoke-" Devapi, ...मेरा कैसा strong connection है शम्भाला से ? मारू तुम चुप रहो, देवापि तुम बोलो , ये तुम्हारे master का order है। "

Maru signalled Devapi with his eyes , but Devapi spoke-" मुझे लगता है आपको आपकी सच्चाई जानने का पूरा हक़ है। "
मैत्रेय-" मेरी सच्चाई ? कैसी सच्चाई ?"

Now Devapi spoke -" Master , यह आपका घर है। You are the one true king of Shambhala."

Maitreya was shocked. " मैं , मेरा घर , king ? यह तुम क्या कह रहे हो देवापि। मेरा जन्म तो यहाँ से बहुत दूर फारस में हुआ था। "

देवापि -" लेकिन उसके पहले आप कहाँ थे ? वह जिसे आप अपना जन्म कह रहे हैं , वह आपका पुनर्जन्म है master.आपका असली जन्म तो यहाँ शम्भाला में हुआ था। "

Maitreya felt confused by all this talk of lifetimes but he remembered Anahita had taught him that our souls are immortal . He never gave it a serious thought before, but now it became imperative to know , who is Maitreya ?"

Maitreya spoke-" यह सब तुमको कैसे पता?"

Devapi looked at Maru.

Maru now spoke-"सनत कुमार से। उन्होंने हमें मन किया था यह बात आपको बताने से। "

मैत्रेय -" अच्छा अब मैं चलता हूँ , बहुत थक गया हूँ। "

Maitreya returned to his room. It seemed a moment ago, he was sure of who he was, but now he did not know himself.

Maitreya closed his eyes and kept repeating ," Who am I?"

He meditated the whole night on this question -" Who am I?"

But it seemed no answer came forth.

By the morning, Maitreya was tired of asking this question. He was about to give up and was going to sleep, when certain images started popping in his mind . So many images of his past were rolling through the landscape of his mind, soon a bright light started coming forth from the centre of his mind. Soon , this light filled the whole room. Maitreya could not understand what was happening to him ?

Finally the light adjusted it's brightness and took the form of a radiant being of light, who was emanating immense love from his being. The light spoke-" Hello, Maitreya."

Thus end Chapter-12.

Chapter- 13 The Soul Vision

The Light spoke-" Hello Maitreya."
Maitreya(feeling shocked)-" Hi... who're you?"
The light smiled-" Don't be afraid .I am you."

Maitreya-" मतलब ??"

The light spoke-" मतलब I am that which you were , that which you're and that which you'll become. I am your soul , dear Maitreya."

Maitreya-" My soul?"
Maitreya's soul -" Yes. Ask me what you wish to know."
Maitreya-" What is my connection to this place?"
Maitreya's soul-" This is your birthplace. This is your home. You were born to the previous king Kalki of shambhala and are destined to be the next king."
Maitreya-" If i was born here , then why don't I remember a thing ?"
Maitreya's soul touched his Ajna chakra, many images start floating in Maitreya's mind. He saw all his memories from this place."
Maitreya's soul-" Now do you believe it?"

Maitreya-" yes ."
Maitreya's soul again spoke-" Now see the future of Earth."
Again Maitreya's soul touched his forehead. Pictures started forming . Maitreya saw the image of a degenerate age. People fallen prey to their lower nature. There is a reign of darkness, Kali everywhere. Brother is stabbing his brother. The eternal dharma has been forgotten……
Then he saw Shambhala in ruins. Libraries burned. Sages killed. Building broken …. Air polluted. Rivers dried and he saw the evil roar of the dark king, exclaiming his victory."

A chill went down the spine of Maitreya.
Maitreya spoke-" What is this fearful future and who was that monster?"
Maitreya's soul spoke-" This is the future towards which the earth is heading fast… and that person was the dark king , Daitreya.
Maitreya-" Daitreya!"
Maitreya's soul-" Yes. You seem to notice the similarity between your names."

Maitreya -" yes."
Maitreya's soul-" That is because he is the complete antithesis of the goodness that'll be you. He will be your polar opposite.If you will bear the crown of light, he'll bear the crown of darkness."

Now Maitreya was lost in his thinking. He could not come up with any possible solution for this broken world.
Maitreya's soul now spoke-" The future is not fixed in stone. It can be changed if ..."
Maitreya-" If what?"
Maitreya's soul-" If we make sincere efforts to change it . If we strive with all our hearts and minds for creating a better world."
Maitreya-" What do I need to do ?"
Maitreya's soul-" You need to become this ...."
And Maitreya's soul again touched his forehead. Pictures started emerging from his mind.
" Maitreya saw himself as a mighty avatar. The great being of light. He looked so divine . so radiant, so beautiful , so pure, so graceful, so unearthly. He had a sword of light with him and

the armour of the divine mother. All the gods and goddesses had gifted him with divine gifts to fulfil his mission.
He then saw himself defeating Daitreya in a terrible battle at stake on which was the destiny of earth itself and then he saw himself dying along with Daitreya.
But the earth was saved. He saw Maru and Devapi as the new rulers of earth , inaugurating the Golden age of Peace and prosperity and so all was well once again. The vision vanished."

Maitreya was dumb-struck and shocked to the core. After a few moments of silence, he finally spoke-" So all this effort, all this spiritual growth, everything just to sacrifice myself in the end."

Maitreya's soul spoke-"You are not sacrificing yourself for anything. Out of love for this great planet, you'll be sacrificing your life, and thus become a true immortal , the greatest hero of all heroes, in the great history of earth."

But Maitreya was not convinced.
He spoke-" I don't like this sacrifice thing. Why can't it be like I defeat the dark king and then I rule over earth , enjoy its bounties and become a great hero."

Maitreya's soul -" So you want to enjoy your life."
Maitreya-" Why, I too am a human?I have not bargained for this big a life.I was content being the son of Mithra. I was happy being the elite, but this is another deal. I admit being an avatar sounds cool but sacrifice , it's so uncool."

Maitreya's soul-" You've a free will. You've choice. You are free to choose a life of comfort and luxury if that's what you want, but know that it'll be an irreparable loss to the world."

Maitreya-" All I am asking is why sacrifice? It seems to me that I am the proverbial goat, who was fed well , only to be slaughtered in the end.This does not make any sense to me. Please enlighten me."

Maitreya's soul-" You say you feel like the proverbial goat who is being fed well , only to be slaughtered in the end . But the truth is sacrifice is the law of life. Sacrifice is everywhere. Doesn't the tree labour to produce that one tasty fruit and then sacrifice its son to your need , to satisfy your hunger. Don't the rivers that flow sacrifice its water to satisfy your thirst. The whole of earth has been sacrificing itself continuously so that her children can live in peace.Can't you sacrifice yourself one time , for the earth.
For only sacrifice is the measure of true love, rest everything is mere sentiment. Nothing more."

Maitreya"s soul seemed wiser than him. Maitreya had now words to counter him. He fell silent. Finally he spoke-" I need time to think, to reflect."

Maitreya's soul-" You've a week's time to decide, not more than that.If Your choice is Yes , then go to Sanat kumar and ask for his guidance. He will direct your path.

If you decide another course for you, then know that this is no place for you. You simply pack your bags and leave. Nobody will ask you or blame you for anything."

Saying this, the brilliant light once again started merging in Maitreya's mind.

Soon Maitreya was all alone in his room once again, reflecting on what he had just experienced. His heart felt heavy. There was no sleep in his eyes.

By now , his whole perception about him had shifted . He knew his soul was no ordinary being. All of a sudden it seemed his life was not his anymore. There was a higher truth to his being. Lost in such thoughts, when Maitreya looked outside, Dawn happened. The first rays of morning sun were hitting shambhala . It was a new day.

Chapter-14 The Teachings of Sanat Kumar(part-1)

Over the next week, Maitreya contemplated what happened that night. Am I really the one , Am I the future king of Shambhala. Am I the mighty avatar or was I hallucinating?Could it be that I dreamed it all ?No , the voice was wiser than me and that light,.... How can I forget that .... But just one week , to make such a big decision, who the hell made the sacrifice a law ? Why Universe? Why me?

An answer came from the depth of his being.
“ Because you are special.”
Earlier Maitreya had liked it in all situations, when he felt special, whether that being the son of Mithra or the disciple of Parashar, but today it seemed just the opposite. Today there was no joy in being special.Here it seemed the entire concept of being special was upside down .
“ Oh ... how much Maitreya hated that word-sacrifice. It seemed so full of violence towards oneself, towards one ‘s body.”

Finally , the week's time was about to end. Maitreya was still indecisive. He retired to his room. He took his bath, and then started practising breath control . Slowly he released the anxiety that had filled him.Once his mind was cleared, once again pictures started coming of earth becoming hell, millions perishing…"
Maitreya knew escaping the truth is not the way. " If one man perishes to save millions, then that is better.After all , all these are my people. I am their king."- so he thought.
In that rare moment, Maitreya felt truly like an avatar. He felt inspired and so ran out seeking Sanat Kumar.
Sanat kumar was busy with agricultural scientists, when he saw Maitreya coming towards him.Maitreya was short on breath. In such a condition , he spoke-" I've decided. I am going to become the world saviour during the kali age. Please instruct me. I am ready."
Sanat kumar saw deep into Maitreya's eyes. Then he spoke-" Do you really want to do this?"
Maitreya -" yes."

Sanat Kumar-" Okay, then I 'll guide your path. Meet me in the evening outside my quarter . We'll begin your instruction from today itself."

In the evening

Maitreya reached the quarter of Sanat Kumar. Now he looked happy and radiant. Sanat kumar spoke-" You made a brave but right choice. Choosing the other would have been cowardice."

Maitreya wondered in his mind-" What difference does it make to the one who is going to be slaughtered."
Sanat kumar continued-" So you found out , who you're?"
Maitreya -" Yes, I now remember my past and I've been given a glimpse of the future."

Sanat Kumar-" Then you understand your evolution is not a luxury but a necessity. Your life belongs to mother Earth. The destinies of both of you are intertwined."

Maitreya again wondered in his mind-" शब्दों का मायाजाल। कितने सुन्दर शब्द बोल कर मुझे फंसा रहा है। "

Sanat kumar finally spoke-" So are you ready Maitreya for further instructions."
Maitreya (surprised)- " Further instructions!"
Sanat kumar-" My first instruction to you was - who am I? Did You forget that?"

And so Sanat kumar began teaching Maitreya on the various concepts of Divine Science.

1. Who am I ?- enquire.
2. Sraddha- faith
3. Life's purpose
4. Be curious about knowing the lord.
5. Be the immortal soul, not the perishable personality
6. Serve the great yogis
7. Love god
8. Worship
9. Divine will
10. Purified by the fire of knowledge
11. Learn to be alone

12. You're atman.

Till now Maitreya had only an elementary understanding of Truth and Yogas. Now for the first time, Sanat kumar was presenting the holy science in the most systematic way.

1. Sanat kumar spoke-" Our minds and bodies are continuously changing , Maitreya. Try to find that which is still, unchanging, eternal. You are that.
2. "Have faith in the ways of the lord. All will be well. The ways of the lord are mysterious. Learn to trust life. Even in your enemies see only the lord.
3. "Life's purpose is to attain the perfection of the lord. Be like your father is in heaven.We are made in the image and likeness of our lord.Therefore , Lord's perfection is our birthright.To evolve becomes a moral responsibility.
4. The Lord enchants. He is beyond the comprehension of our ordinary mind,

but his leelas make a deep impact on us. Seek to understand the deeper import of his teachings."

5. Be the soul, not the personality that perishes. Then sacrifice becomes easy and fun.Soul is our true reality. Personality is but a cloth over the body of the soul . Realise this and be free."
6. Yogis are great beings who are always absorbed in contemplation of ultimate truth. Serve them and learn from their ocean of wisdom."
7. "God is to be loved , not feared.God loves us unconditionally, whether we love him or not . Therefore, love him with all your heart."
8. "By worship, the worshipper is fulfilled. It is an ancient form of thankfulness to the divine for all that he has blessed us with."
9. "Divine will- Personal will is the will of your desire body. Learn to decipher

the will of the divine. Shape your life to dedicate it to the fulfilment of divine will."

10. "Study the holy words of saints and fakir. Their words are priceless treasure. They purify our minds of all unholy acts."
11. Learn to be alone..... Filled with purpose. Forget the mediocre crowd. When you are with the world , you forget yourself. When you are alone, you discover your true nature."
12. You are atman. You are the eternal , unchanging one.You have never died and will never die.You are the cause of all causes."

Over the period of next one year, Sanat kumar taught Maitreya and monitored his progress. Slowly but steadily, Maitreya became proficient in all the topics. Sanat kumar was

pleased when Maitreya informed him that he had mastered his teachings. Sanat kumar-” well done, my boy.”

Chapter 14.2 The teachings of Sanat Kumar(part-2)

Sanat Kumar continued-" Now listen to my further teachings which are essential for you to master on this path ."

Maitreya nodded.

Sanat kumar continued listing the various teachings that Maitreya needed to master.

13. Practice harmlessness in thought , word , and deed.
14. Follow your voice of conscience.
15. Study the self.
16. Practice goodwill
17. Adapt to the regulations of Yama and niyama .
18. Learn to see beyond dualities,
19. Do not criticise other paths .
20. A good teacher always remains a student .
21. The power of satsangati
22. All is Divine .

23. The only obstacle.
24. The importance of Guru.

13.Sanat kumar continued," Since all is brahman, all living beings are children of God. You do not kill another member of your family , do you? Therefore ,practise absolute harmlessness towards all beings in thought , speech, and action.

14. You may not know the right thing to do , but your soul knows . Your soul will always encourage you to leave the wrong path and follow the right path of dharma. Always listen to this voice of conscience."

15." Observe the self. Study the various expressions and manifestations of the self. Self observation and self study are the only true methods of knowing the self."

16. " Practise Goodwill. The self is love. Therefore practise loving all the creatures as part of yourself . Try to love them as much as you love

yourself and try to love yourself as little as you love them now.

17. The yamas and niyamas are the basics and foundation upon which the entire path depends.Ethics matter .The purification of matter and mind will make yourself a clear mirror through which the light of Truth shines."

18.Learn to see the oneness beyond the dualities of life.Duality is Maya . When you are involved in the game of duality- pleasure-pain, gain-loss, respect-disrespect, love-hate etc it is said you are bound and being played by Maya . Step back and establish yourself into the self and thus transcend the Duality.

19. Do not criticise other paths to Truth. Your way is not the only way.There is one Truth but the path leading to it are many.

20.Always remain a student of life . Never think that you know the ultimate truth.Truth is that

knows us fully but we know it little .Our knowledge of life ever remains like a bucket full of water in an ocean of knowledge.Therefore, be ever vigilant . See life as a veiled bride who has many mysteries to unfold but it reveals them to worthy ones."

21. The power of Satsangati . It is always important to associate yourself with other sincere seekers of truth , for we are what we associate with.A good person becomes bad when associated with a group of bad people . Same is true in the opposite .Therefore always be surrounded by those who follow the path of truth.

22.All is Divine. Erase from your mind the distinction of good ,bad, holy, profane high and low etc . This is dualistic thinking which leads to false perceptions . See the whole creation as divine and all beings as divine actors , even the so-called bad ones .It is all one , big Divine play.Realize this and see the Divine even in your enemies ."

23. A solidified identity of separateness where you limit your identity to the body consciousness is the only obstacle . Learn to transcend body consciousness and merge your identity with the infinite brahman .”

24. Guru is the embodiment of truth itself.Always have a guru. In truth , Life is one great teacher of all teachers , which teaches us by direct experiences that an outer guru teaches by word.Learn from dattatreya , who learnt about life from the elements of nature itself.”

The teachings of Sanat kumar were profound . Maitreya started practising these teachings in his life .Soon he could feel his perspective shifting from narrowness to wholeness . He now felt greater love for all beings of creation. His heart was opening itself towards all beings . He started practising the aphorisms .The more he practised, the more he realised how little did he know , he felt humbled .A sense of gratitude filled Maitreya’s heart for sanat kumar . While Sage Parashar has

touched upon the practice of yoga in his master treatise very lightly , for the first time Maitreya felt he had come to know of this path in greater detail . And so another year passed . Maitreya felt he had integrated the teachings of sanat kumar in his being . Now he hungered for further teachings .

Maitreya went to Sanat kumar and pleaded for further instructions

.

Sanat kumar spoke-" You are a worthy disciple and a quick learner , dear Maitreya . If you want to learn more deeply about the path of yoga , then we have brilliant sages of yore here . Go serve them and take their counsel on what yoga is ? May your path be blessed ."

Maitreya thanked Sanat kumar and left.

Chapter 15 Learning from the sages.

And so Maitreya went to meet the sages .When the sages saw Maitreya approaching them , they were pleased. Most of them welcomed him with an open heart . A few of them spoke -" O great one , your return is filled with auspiciousness.We have great faith in you ."

Some said ," When you were gone , it felt as if the soul of shambhala had left. We awaited your return ."

While there were others who were more measured in their tones ." So you have come for the teachings . Know that all the answers come from within. Don't rely on outward sources.Your true support is within."

Some said," O great one , this is nothing but child's play for you . You are the establisher of dharma in this land and now you have come to seek our wise counsel . Shan't we laugh about it?"

The various responses perplexed Maitreya but nonetheless he was sincere in his urge that he wanted the yogis to enlighten him.

The yogis saw themselves less as a guru and more as a test by the great lord who wanted to test their ripening on this path of yoga . It was odd , for nobody knew who was the guru and who was chela . It seemed as if Guru acted like a chela and the chela was supposed to act like a guru.
And so the teachings began.

The various teachings Maitreya received were :

1. Realise God now
2. The significance of human life
3. Strengthen the body to liberate the mind .
4. Microcosm and macrocosm
5. 'I am the body' is a lie.
6. Be free of the disease of 'I' and 'mine'.
7. The world is illusory
8. The fishing net of the world
9. The truth about joy and sorrow
10. Cutting through desire
11. Instruction in happiness
12. The value of contentment
13. The power of thought

14. The mind is the cause of bondage and liberation.
15. The practice of self enquiry
16. The five hindrances.
17. Three great obstacles on the path
18. The fault of indecisiveness
19. Futility of intellectual knowledge
20. The need for discipline
21. Practice makes perfect
22. Success in yoga
23. Characteristics of a disciple
24. Kinds of initiation
25. You are immortal
26. The inner treasure
27. The value of faith
28. The path is difficult
29. The eightfold limbs of yoga
30. The eightfold path.

1.Realise God now .

Birth in the human body is the reward of good deeds done in former lives. Life lasts for a few days , it does not last long . So o worthy one,

do not waste your time .Use it wisely to realise the supreme here now.

2.The significance of Human life.

A human birth is difficult to obtain.Therefore, when still young , the wise person should cultivate the virtues dear to the divine .

3.” There is no fetter like illusion(maya).
There is no power greater than yoga
There is no friend better than wisdom
No enemy worse than ego .”

4. “ The microcosm is the reflection of macrocosm
As within, so without
As below ,so above
Therefore , know thyself and know the whole Creation.”

5. The idea -” i am the body “ is a lie , the source of all misery.Know that you are something more , more profound than that.

6.The idea ‘I’ and ‘mine’ eclipse the truth much like the moon eclipses the sun.Therefore remove them , for the light of truth to shine.

7.The world is illusory.
It changes its form continuously .
Only the self is real, the unchangeable constant.

8. The Maya enmeshes , God liberates .
We all are bound . Know this and strive for liberation.

9. Joy and sorrow-Desire joy and get suffering .
Know that they are twins , one precedes the other.
Therefore be unattached to both of them.

10.Cut through the net of desires. Become desireless and achieve the highest joy .

11.Happiness-There exists but one true happiness. The bliss of the self . All else is temporary. They come in the garb of happiness but lead to suffering.

12. Contentment is the jewel you need to cultivate .Let go of desires and ambition , for you get only what the lord desires . Let the Lord decide what to give you - joy or sorrow, success or failure, growth or downfall. Be content . This is the key to mastery.

and so Maitreya received countless teachings from the sages on the path and practice of Yoga.

Episode 16 The questions of Maitreya

Listening to the sages , Maitreya was satisfied.He left them to practice the new teachings. He started practising .He had expected he would have many new realisations, he would feel closer to the divine .But on the contrary , he felt his life force sucking out.He started seeing the duality of life as an enemy to be conquered . He wanted to be one with the divine but the divine seemed to be ephemeral - the reality behind all things.In his attempt to look for the oneness, all he could see was the same attributeless Divine.All appearances, their beauty, their diversity that makes the world such an exciting place seemed to be lost in the monotonous divine. He also grew inward-oriented. Now he would spend his time more by himself , trying to observe the Self, trying to understand the self but the true understanding of self eluded him.

Soon his existence became the joyless one . He was perturbed . This was not what he had expected to happen . He once again approached

the Sages. He told them his problem but none could understand him.They were all happy with the bliss of the Brahman . If Maitreya is not happy , then the teachings are not to blame, Maitreya must not be practising correctly.All they would say ….keep practising, keep striving , you'll find joy in the end of the tunnel.
Heeding to their advice, Maitreya resumed his practice , but all he could find was that his existence became a dry one , almost like a dried leaf.
Maitreya approached Sanat kumar with his problem.
Maitreya-" Sanat , I think there is something fundamentally wrong with the teachings . They have not led me to joy."

Sanat kumar -" You are challenging the age -old wisdom. It is by this wisdom that millions have attained liberation.The fault must be in your attitude or your practice."

Maitreya-" Please try to understand..... When I practised your teachings , it seemed to open a new dimension in my life , but these teachings seem to have taken all the joys of my life . No matter how much I try to know Brahman , Brahman is unknowable .... I am frustrated now."

Sanat kumar," Then relax for a while, don't over stress yourself . Go take a bath . From the next day, resume your practice."

Maitreya saw that Sanat Kumar too could not help him.He had expected Sanat to resolve his problem ...now what?"
Maitreya returned to his room . He took a bath and tried to forget the teachings . Next morning , he went on a tour of Shambhala once again.
" Are the sages really happy.... Are they absorbed in the bliss of brahman?"
He went about looking for the external signs of that supreme bliss but alas , all he found was a kind of negative peace, the peace of a dead man in their faces . There was no true joy. To him , they

seemed like parrots, parroting the wisdom of the old.
When he saw sanat kumar, he looked more vibrant, more positive ... a kind of neutral peace . He seemed to be neither happy nor sad, not desiring anything for himself but filled with enthusiasm for serving the lord.It was this enthusiasm which kept Sanat kumar cheerful.
Maitreya found a fundamental difference between the two. While the sages were focussed on liberation , they saw the world as a play of Maya , Sanat only wanted to serve the lord.

Coming back to his room , he reflected on what he absorbed. Maitreya reasoned-" Certainly the state of Sanat kumar is more desirable than the sages , so is serving the lord selflessly better than attaining liberation?"
There was no conclusive answer.
Maitreya further reasoned -" Is there joy in serving the lord or is it that sanat kumar just enjoys working for the lord?"

Maitreya came to the conclusion that it was the latter . It was truly the energy of enthusiasm that was the source of his happiness.
Maitreya thus concluded ," The reason I had become joyless was because I denied the half of reality.All energy is duality and it is the play of duality that makes life interesting. Without her , life seemed not worth living ."
"So , ... Are the teachings of the sages wrong ?"
Maitreya further opened his notebook . He revisited the teachings , the teachings indeed looked like they were talking about wisdom, and indeed practising them leads to freedom in the sense that you reside in your self , but these teachings consider the other half , the life giving waters to be an enemy.Therefore the bliss of brahman had been eclipsed by misery and joylessness, so much so that now he didn't feel any joy at all."

Maitreya further remembered all the sages taking the name of Hari. Who is this Hari ?

Maitreya remembered the attendant showing him the light portal , saying the kingdom of Hari is at the top .He was curious to know about Hari.
In his mind he cursed Hari- it was this fellow whose teachings had made his life a living hell .
Maitreya remembered his life with Anahita .
“ Yes , even that was not easy , the initiations , but the beauty of Anahita compensated everything .
“Just one look of her …. Oh I enjoyed serving her so much , yes yes much like sanat enjoys serving the brahman , oh but I enjoyed even more .”
“O anahita , where are you?”
Maitreya wished he had a soma plant with himself.She was the source of all joy , why did I leave her , why did she send me on this journey , look Anahita , what had I become?
And so lost in such thoughts , finally sleep took over Maitreya.

Episode 17 :The library of Shambhala

Maitreya's questions were still left unanswered.He knew now neither Sanat kumar nor the sages could help . He had to help himself and so he was wondering what to do , how to proceed when an excellent idea struck his mind- 'The Library'.

"Yes , the library would have the ancient records - the original teachings . I must now go to the source of these teachings to understand life , what is liberation? What is maya? So all enjoyment should be shunned ?

Maitreya knew he had to do his own research now.And so he went to the great library of Shambhala which housed the most ancient records .When Maitreya reached the library, the librarian enquired-" What is the purpose of your visit?"

Maitreya -" I am the pupil of Sanat kumar. Sanat kumar has sent me here for further study of ancient wisdom ."

Hearing the name of sanat kumar , the librarian allowed Maitreya to enter the library.

When Maitreya started looking around , he found many exciting texts containing the records of ancient prophets , the secret history of planet earth , the blueprint of perfection attained in Atlantis, the sacred symbols of Mu , celtic wisdom,The books of Enoch and so and so. Maitreya wondered-" there is so much to know and I know so little."

Then Maitreya's eyes fell on the teachings of Hari. Since he was particularly intrigued by Hari, he started his reading with the teachings of Hari. The whole day Maitreya read , being absorbed in the text so much that he knew not when time passed.He realised he had not experienced such profound peace even when he tried to meditate. But then Maitreya began investigating the information.The character of Hari was particularly interesting , so full of life . The book also mentioned the future incarnations of Hari .... The last name was his. Maitreya felt a bit uncomfortable , but he remembered the soul vision , it was something destined to happen.

Maitreya moved forward to the teachings of Hari, the teachings were the same that the sages had told him . He wondered how can somebody become so full of life with such monotonous teachings .In the whole book, all Hari was saying was renunciation. Renounce this, renounce that .True renunciation and false renunciation, lower renunciation and higher renunciation, smaller renunciation and greater renunciation. Renunciation of body, renunciation of mind and renunciation of life.This path of renunciation was called yoga.Maitreya could see the contradiction between the personality of Hari , which was so full of life and the teachings which made one so lifeless.

Maitreya returned to his room .He pondered -" So the sages are not to blame . It is this man who has played the trick with them . They all got fascinated by his attraction . They all desired his perfection and what did Hari do , he gave them a teaching which took even the basic joys of life , forget the supreme perfection.

Maitreya could not understand ,"क्या उलटी गंगा बह रही है यहाँ । "

Next day , Maitreya again returned to the library.Today he laid his hands on the teachings of The Divine Mother .To his surprise , the whole texts were filled with life affirmative statements.Enjoyment of life is the goal of life.Supreme enjoyment . Enjoy fully . Enjoy less and enjoy more.Do not deny sex . The path to transcend sex is to enjoy sex fully, for that which you have enjoyed fully , you are able to let go .That which you desire to enjoy but try to let go , only lead to an unhealthy state of suppression.It creates a neurotic state of mind. Maitreya could not agree less. This path of enjoyment was called Tantra.

Maitreya wondered ," Perhaps I am more suited for Tantra than yoga . Tantra is so cool , yoga so dry.Tantra is life affirmative, yoga life negative

He thought-" Perhaps I made a mistake coming here .Perhaps....."

And so the day ended.

Next day out of curiosity, Maitreya once again reached the library.Paradoxically now he was enjoying both reading the texts and the bliss of brahman., for reading created such a state of absorption for him . He thought he had figured his path - the path of enjoyment - the path of Divine mother , to serve her, to enjoy her ,yes , yes but Hari still attracted him ." Oh the persona of Hari , he is so attractive..... Shit an unknown attraction binds me with him .Oh ! how much I too want to attain his perfection, but his path, why is it so uncool , so joyless ."

Finally Maitreya started wondering what next he should read . His eyes fell on Upanishads.

He brought a copy of it with him in his room . The Upanishads talked of the attributeless divine-"

ईशावास्यं इदं सर्वं "

"The whole universe is it,
It is the true controller of all beings.
It is the one true master .
It is this ,It is that.

It is both male and female.
It is neither of the two.
It is all and it is none.
It is both far and near.
It is inside and outside."

At the end of the upanishads were written

,"तेन त्यक्तेन भुंजित"

Maitreya could not understand .
What a paradoxical book he was reading .
First it described the ultimate reality with paradoxical nonsensical statements .now it is describing the path as renounce and enjoy.
"Renounce and enjoy."
It seemed to be a paradox . How is it possible ?
Maitreya reflected .Now the whole picture was becoming clear .
Enjoyment per se of life is natural but it leads to bondage .
Renunciation per se leads to liberation but it is a joyless existence.
But renounce and enjoy , it means enjoy life as a free man , without getting caught in the web of life

. So what is wrong is not enjoyment but the bondage that leads to slavery.

So for Maitreya it seemed a big puzzle was solved. Here onwards he decided he will be the master of yoga and the master of tantra. He needs both Hari and the divine mother.
“Renounce and enjoy “ became his mantra.

Episode 18 : The call of Hari

And so with happiness inside, Maitreya slept in peace . He felt his questions , which for the past few days were troubling him , have finally been answered.He now knew the true path, He now had the complete understanding.Finally he lost his consciousness in sleep and started dreaming.

The dream

In the dream, Maitreya saw himself as a woman. She was in a big house , it was royal . Seated on the sofa was Hari himself . Hari looked divine, beautiful, and hot. Hari calls him Kamli . Kamli started feeling attracted towards Hari . She starts touching her buttocks , her breasts, oh ! how much she wanted Hari's embrace.

She saw Hari looking at her seductively, with a crooked smile . He started speaking -" Come Kamli, come in my arms , let there be no spaces hereafter ."

Kamli felt an irresistible urge .

She cried ," sahab!"

And the dream broke.

Maitreya woke up. He saw his penis hard, erect , he wondered what kind of dream was this.What does this mean? Was it just a random dream or does it mean something ? Maitreya thought he would seek the counsel of Sanat kumar next morning and so he slept.

The whole night ... it seemed Maitreya's mind was filled with erotic images , the kiss, the khatiya , the ahhhs ! and ohhhs! .
Finally morning happened .Maitreya took the bath and went straight to meet Sanat kumar.
Sanat was pleased to see Maitreya .

Sanat kumar-" आज कल दीखते नहीं हो , कहाँ रहते हो आज कल ?"

मैत्रेय -" मै library में किताबें पढ़ रहा था इन दिनों। "

सनत कुमार-" समझा , अपने प्रश्नो के उत्तर ढूंढ रहे थे। "

मैत्रेय -" जी "

सनत कुमार -" तो उत्तर मिले ?"

मैत्रेय -" हाँ , अब मेरे सारे प्रश्नो के उत्तर मिल गए। "

सनत कुमार -" चलो ,बढ़िया है। फिर इतने चिंतित क्यों हो?"

मैत्रेय-" वो बात ऐसी है की ....."

सनत कुमार -" की?"

मैत्रेय -" कल रात हरि मेरे सपने में आये थे। "

सनत कुमार-" और? "

मैत्रेय(अपने मन में)-" अब इसे पूरी राम कहानी बताऊँ। "

मैत्रेय -" कुछ नहीं, वो मुझे आने को कह रहे थे। "

सनत कुमार -" कहाँ ?"

मैत्रेय-" अपने घर। "

सनत कुमार -" बस एक सपना था , छोड़ो , भूल जाओ। "

मैत्रेय -" अगर एक सपना होता तो भूल जाता लेकिन ...."

सनत कुमार -" लेकिन क्या?"

मैत्रेय -" कल रात भर हरि मेरे सपने में आये। "

Sanat kumar now became contemplative.

Maitreya (in his mind)-" Thank god,आगे नहीं पूछा इसने। "

Sanat kumar-"इसका तो एक ही मतलब हो सकता है। "

मैत्रेय -" क्या?"

सनत कुमार -" It's a call .हरि ने तुम्हे बुलाया है। "

मैत्रेय -" तो मुझे जाना चाहिए या नहीं ?"

सनत कुमार -" अरे पागल , हरि इच्छा यानी ब्रह्म की इच्छा। ईश्वर का आदेश भी भला कोई टालता है ?तुम्हे अभी जाने की तयारी करनी चाहिए। "

मैत्रेय -" लेकिन मै जाऊँगा कैसे ?"

सनत कुमार -" तुमने वो पोर्टल तो देखा ही होगा जो heaven और earth को connect करता है। "

मैत्रेय -" हाँ "

सनत कुमार -" बस वहीँ से। "

The kingdom of Hari

Maitreya returned to his room and started packing his bags . His life would take such a swift turn , he had not expected but he looked forward to meeting Hari. He was intrigued , the personality which attracted him so much, he was finally going to meet him . And so in the evening Sanat kumar boarded Maitreya in a light ship which then flew to

higher dimensions , frequently adjusting its frequency , becoming more and more transparent ,finally it reached the kingdom of Hari .
Maitreya got out and then the ship disappeared .

The kingdom of Hari was even more beautiful than Shambhala .Maitreya wondered -" So Hari yahan rehte hain."
The whole place was lighted with peace , prosperity and abundance.The residents looked genuinely happy , enjoying their lives. It seemed way more advanced than Maitreya had ever known anything .The streets were clean . All were very friendly . There was honesty and sincerity in their behaviour . There was no discrimination of high and low . Everything belonged to everyone .Hari-maya was the energy pervading the atmosphere .It took care of all the necessities of the residents.While enjoying their lives , all people continuously meditated on the name of Hari .

Maitreya liked the place. His perception widened to the possibilities of life . He wondered on how earthlings were satisfied with so little when so much is possible , who would not like to stay here ,....if only earthlings could have a vision of this place , but alas the denser atmosphere of Earth makes everyone forget the supreme beauty of Hari's abode .Now even liberation looked like enjoyment to Maitreya . If one suffers a few pains on earth and in turn gets this , then the deal is not bad.

Maitreya too was feeling immersed in the vibrations of this place . He found people joyously singing 'Hari bol hari"
All were very happy under the divine rule of Hari .Now Maitreya , having enjoyed Hari's kingdom ,decided to go to Hari's house.

Part-3

Episode-1: The Beginning- Kamli enters Hari's house

Doorbell rings.' Tring Tring. 'Hari opens the door.

A beautiful young girl wearing skirt-top is standing there. Hari stares from top to down , then asks ,"जी कहिये। "

Kamli -" जी मेरा नाम कमली है और मुझे काम की सख्त जरूरत है। क्या मुझे यहाँ काम मिल सकता है ?"

हरि-" बिलकुल मिल सकता है .....आओ अंदर आओ। "

kamli -" जी शुक्रिया। "

हरि -" और बताओ क्या -क्या काम जानती हो?"

kamli -" जी झाड़ू, पोछा,बर्तन , घर के लगभग सभी काम मैं कर लेती हूँ। "

हरि kamli को गहराई से नापने लगे , मानो वो कमली के आत्मा में झांक रहे हो। उन्होंने मन ही मन सोचा -" तुम इन सब काम के लिए नहीं बनी हों kamli."

Lekin kamli ko thoda uncomfortable lagne laga.

साहब मुझे तुक तुक देखे ही जा रहे है। "

kamli ने सोचा -"लगता है साहब थोड़े वो type के हैं। इनको थोड़ा वो दूंगी तभी ये मुझे नौकरी पर रखेंगे। यह सोच कर kamli ने अपने blouse को थोड़ा और खिंचा ताकि boobs का inner view ठीक से दिखे और अपनी skirt को भी थोड़ा ऊपर खिंच लिया ताकि legs का भी अच्छा view मिले साहब को। "

kamli को ऐसा करते देख हरि मुस्कुराये। फिर हरि ने पूछा-" तुम dance कर सकती हों?"

kamli -" जी साहब

मन ही मन कमली ने सोचा -" इसका मेरे काम से क्या लेना देना। लेकिन मुझे क्या , नौकरी के लिए मैं कुछ भी करुँगी। "

हरि -" तो शुरू हों जाओ , इस डांस पर निर्भर करता है की तुम्हे नौकरी मिलेगी की नहीं। "

And so Kamli danced madly.
As she completes her dance , she falls into Hari's **arms and Lakshmi enters the house with vegetables**

in her hands. Seeing Hari with another woman , that too a young girl . Lakshmi is horrified.She thinks in her mind ," क्या करूँ मैं मेरे पति का?.....जहाँ मौका मिलता है , वहीं शुरू हों जाते हैं। "

मैं तो थक गयी हूँ इनकी हरकतों को सहते सहते , लेकिन यह हैं की सुधरने का नाम ही नहीं लेते। "

Seeing Lakshmi red faced with anger , Hari tries to explain.

"तुम जैसा सोच रही हों , वैसा कुछ भी नहीं है। "

Laxmi-"हाँ, अब चोरी पकड़ी गयी तो ऐसा ही बोलेंगे।"

Hari-"नहीं लक्ष्मी , मैं तो तुम्हारी समस्या का हल कर रहा था। "

Lakshmi-" अच्छा , कल तो कह रहे थे की संसार की समस्याएं क्या कम हैं तो तुम्हारी घरेलु समस्याएं बैठ कर हल करुँ, और अब बोल रहें हैं की मेरी समस्या हल कर रहे थे ... सब समझती हूँ मैं। "

Hari-"सच्ची लक्ष्मी.... तुम्हे विश्वास नहीं मुझपर।"

Lakshmi-"बस यही कहकर आप मुझे हर बार चुप करा देते हैं।"

Hari-"तो सुनो , तुमको काम वाली बाई चाहिए थी ना तो देखो मैंने खोज परख कर लिया। यह कमली है और इसे घर के सारे काम आते हैं। लक्ष्मी बेचारी को काम की सख्त ज़रुरत है,अब मेरी वजह से मन मत करना प्रिये। "

lakshmi-"और पैसे की बात की,... जानते हैं न हमारा financial condition अच्छा नहीं चल रहा है। "

Hari-"बस करता हूँ , तुम शांत हो जाओ। "

Hari now speaks to Kamli .

"कमली, तुम हमारे यहाँ काम कर सकती हो लेकिन पैसे नहीं मिलेंगे। "

Kamli-"लेकिन साहब , बिन पैसे के काम , मेरा घर कैसे चलेगा, मेरी बुढ़ी माँ। "

Hari-"अब तुम मेरी शरण में आ गयी हो कमली। अपनी माँ की चिंता मत करो। सब शुभ होगा। वो सब मैं देख लूंगा। लेकिन तुम्हे यहीं रह कर काम करना होगा। बोलो मंजूर है? "

kamli(thinking)-"मुझे यह नौकरी की सख्त जरूरत है , और फिर साहब मेरी माँ का ख्याल रखने की बात कह ही चुके हैं , यहाँ रहने भी मिल रहा है , और क्या चाहिए।"

Hari ने फिर पूछा -" किस सोच में पड़ गयी कमली? क्या तुम्हे यह नौकरी मंजूर है?"

Kamli -"मंजूर है। "

Hari-"बढ़िया , तो फिर तुम्हारे रहने का इंतजाम घर के बाहर करवा देता हूँ, आँगन में एक पुरानी खटिया है , तुम्हे वहीँ सोना है, कोई मुश्किल ?"

Kamli- "नहीं साहब। "

Hari now speaks to Lakshmi

"प्रिये , तुम खुश तो हो ना , तुम्हे घर का काम करते देख मुझे अत्यंत पीड़ा का अनुभव होता था।"

Lakshmi-"सच, स्वामी। "

Hari-"मुच, प्रिये।"

" धन और ऐश्वर्या की देवी मेरे घर में नौकरानी के जैसे रहे , यह मुझे स्वीकार नहीं। "

Lakshmi was pleased hearing this.She thought-" मेरे पति मुझसे कितना प्रेम करते हैं, मैं व्यर्थ ही शक कर रही थी। "

Hari then left for his office.Lakshmi made kamli **understand the whole work of Hari's home and Kamli began her work.Kamli is finally employed.Lakshmi introduced Kamli to other members of Hari's home- Saraswati, Ganga, Yamuna, Tulsi and Meera.The two sisters(Ganga and Yamuna) lived in one room , Tulsi and Meera in another room, and there was a master bedroom in which Hari and lakshmi lived.It didn't took time for Kamli to figure out that this house was different than other houses she had visited to ask for work. These ladies have a radiance in their faces .....they look like Devis.Kamli also noticed ,observing the behaviour of all women that all these women felt jealous of lakshmi and her master bedroom.She realised,"इस घर में तो सभी साहब**

पे मरते हैं l”-thinking thus, she giggled and so doing the day’s work, Kamli finally returned to her khatiya to rest.It was a new beginning for Kamli. She had no idea what fate had in store for her , that this ordinary young maid will one day be transformed into a mighty Buddha, who would one day transform the world.

Episode-2: Kamli leaves

Finally the night dawned. Kamli went to sleep in his khatiya. After midnight, strange sounds started coming from various rooms.

Lakshmi-” Ahh swamy… oh swami … aise na dabaiye swamy… oh..”

Hari-” Tum bas anand lo priye!”

From another room,

Saraswati-”ओ हरि , ऐ प्रेम पुजारी आपकी सेवा में करूँ अपने ज्ञान को अर्पण। आपके चरणों में मेरा सर्वस्व समर्पण। ”

Hari-" वाह !आनंद ही आ गया। कितनी खूबसूरत कविता है। अब आओ प्रिये , मुझे अपने ज्ञान रूपी मुख का रसपान नहीं कराओगी। तुम्हारा गीत- संगीत मेरी आत्मा को तृप्त कर देता है। अब और न तड़पाओ। "

Saraswati-" ओह हरि , शब्दों के जादूगर ,.... मुझे शर्म आती है। "

Kamli went to hear from the third room.Ganga and yamuna were fighting with each other.

Ganga-"नहीं , हरि पहले मुझे प्रेम करेंगे, मैं बड़ी हूँ। "

Yamuna-"अच्छा ! हर बार तुम यही कहती हो , आज तो मैं हरि प्रेम का आनंद लुंगी। "

Hari-"गंगे-यमुने , तुम दोनों व्यर्थ में झगड़ रही हो। मेरा प्रेम तुम दोनों के लिए अनंत है। आओ मेरी बाहों में आओ। "

Then Kamli went to the fourth room.

Meera(singing)- "मेरे तो गिरधर गोपाल। मैं नाचूँ रे ..."

Hari-" मीरा , तुम मेरी महान भक्त हो , आओ अब रात्रि को व्यथ नहीं करते हैं। "

Meera-"आप मेरे पति परमेश्वर हैं। दिन में तो समय मिलता नहीं है , रात्रि में ही आपकी सेवा कर लूँ। दिन भर काम करते रहते हैं। थक गए होंगे , लाइए मैं पैर दबा दूँ। "

Hari-"तुम्हारी भक्ति, तुम्हारा प्रेम कितना निस्वार्थ है , मीरे!"